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WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE
THE COMMON CAUSE
OF HUMANITY.

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To spend that shortness basely were too long."

ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES (NUMBER OF SOCIETIES IN THE UNION 489).

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Notes and Comments.

The Crown.

The offering of wanton disrespect to the Crown, even under a plea of certain constitutional rights of approach, forms no part of the constitutional programme adopted by the overwhelming majority of Suffragists. We believe we have authority to express, on behalf of these Suffragists, our profound regret that such disrespect should be offered by anyone, and a repudiation of the claim that it is offered in the name of Suffragists.

The Channing Arnold Case.

We are glad to see that the Channing Arnold case continues to attract public attention, and we hope ourselves to deal further with questions arising from it very shortly. We print elsewhere a letter from Mr. Wilson stating that he is anxious to reply in *The Times* to a communication from Sir Herbert Thirkell White, which appeared in that paper on May 15th, but that *The Times* has declined to publish a reply he has sent to them.

We also print the questions asked in the Commons last week, together with Mr. C. Roberts' answer. On the points raised by these questions we refrain from comment at present. Our thoughts turn once more to the child, for her wrongs are so easily forgotten. Women of an imperial race bear heavy responsibilities. It is useless to say women cannot think imperially. They must. If the law in any part of the Empire is not in effect as well as in form, strong enough to protect little girls from cruel wrong, women in every part of the Empire are dishonoured.

Fighting for Freedom in N.-E. Derbyshire.

A healthy breeze blows from N.-E. Derbyshire. With many of the points at issue between the three candidates, Suffragists as such are not concerned, but that Mr. Martin stood for exploited women and polled over 3,000 votes against great odds, is very much their concern. Heartiest congratulations to all who fought in the gallant fight.

The Breakfast Egg.

Mr. Lloyd George has twice disregarded the custom by which Cabinet Ministers do not enter the arena at by-elections. Several years ago he spoke for Mr. Winston Churchill at Manchester and Mr. Churchill was defeated—last week Mr. George sped to the assistance of Mr. Masterman at Ipswich, and Mr. Ganzoni has got in. Mr. George seems like that egg the old woman in the workhouse mentioned when she was asked what the inmates had to eat. "Oh," she replied, "they give us mostly porridge and bread and weak tea, and an egg for breakfast the day we die."

The Ipswich Result Helps Woman Suffrage.

The ill-success of Mr. Masterman for the second time within a few months is a heavy blow to him and his political and personal friends, and it is well that he bore this blow in a manly and dignified way. Suffragists may sympathise with his personal disappointment, but they sympathise more deeply with the cry of unenfranchised womanhood. Mr. Masterman refuses all serious consideration of the women's demand for political recognition, and that the N.U.W.S.S. by its opposition has been partly instrumental in securing his defeat is a subject for pride and rejoicing.

Epsom and Ipswich.

The Press states that at Epsom, the Grand Stand, the new refreshment room built at a cost of £14,000, and every building has each its own guard for the race, and that 2,000 police officers have been drafted in. From Ipswich one who has good reason to be well informed, writes: "Our escape is little short of miraculous. —— has been pelted with missiles of every kind. Miss —— told me that she had never been so pommelled. She could hardly lie on her back, and her legs were bruised and her face scratched. Platform after platform has been rushed." All physical violence, whether of Suffragists, or of the public, or of the official guardians of law and order, is so nearly contemptible that those who resort to it place themselves in the dock before public opinion, whatever official punishment they may suffer or escape.

The Price of a Suffragist Soul.

The correspondence in *The Times* on Women's Suffrage and local parliaments is not yet exhausted. It will be remembered that Mrs. Ward published a second letter last week of considerable length stating in effect that no official alliance with Suffragists for any form of local government vote would be possible unless they renounced their claim to the imperial franchise. Mrs. Fawcett's convincing reply to this we print elsewhere. Mrs. Ward's further rejoinder only serves to adorn Mrs. Fawcett's moral—that she and Mrs. Ward differ as to the essentials of a settlement by consent.

A communication in *The Times* of May 23rd (which we also reproduce), signed by Lord Curzon and Lord Weardale, on behalf of the Executive Committee of the N.L.O.W.S., proves that even if Suffragists desired to sell their souls, the price offered is a little meagre.

Women's Way in Dublin.

The Earl of Pembroke has just made a gift of land in Dublin upon which model cottages are to be built, to be controlled by the Alexandra College Guild. The Guild was founded in 1897 by Miss White, LL.D., at a meeting presided over by Mrs. Henry Fawcett, who is still a Vice-President. It is noteworthy that it at once took up the Dublin Housing question and founded in the following year the Alexandra Guild Tenements Co., Ltd., to deal with this question, to which public attention has recently been called by means of riots and bloodshed. The Guild's way seems best.

Deptford Women, Loyal and True.

The following appeared in *The Daily Citizen* of May 21st:—

"The women on strike at A. & G. Scott's, Ltd., tin-box factory, Deptford, won yesterday a great victory, the firm having agreed to all their demands. But the women are, above all things, loyal to their fellow-workers. They will not return until the demands of the men employed by the firm are granted."

During the Ladies' Golf Championship Finals the Press was pleased to congratulate the women who took part in them on their sportsmanlike behaviour to each other. The women did not desire special congratulations for conduct in no way exceptional. The right sort of women, whether at work or at play, are always "sportsmen," whether in their relations to each other or to men.

Perilous Position of the Primrose League.

The following is from *The Pall Mall* of May 21st:—

"Sir E. Carson was the principal speaker at a meeting of the Ladies' Grand Council of the Primrose League, held at St. James's Theatre this afternoon. Miss Balfour presided.

"Sir Edward Carson, who met with a cordial reception, said their welcome was not so bad for a rebel to receive. (Laughter.) 'Imperium et libertas'—that was the motto of Ulster to-day. (Hear, hear.) He was not against his King, he was not fighting against his King, but he was fighting for his King and for his kingdom's rights. (Applause.)

"He had been asked to propose a resolution which emphatically condemned the Government's Irish policy. He proposed it with all his heart. (Hear, hear.) No country had made greater progress under Unionist administration than had Ireland."

Perhaps Sir Edward used Latin so that the ladies might not realise he was talking of the Empire and of liberty—which are things they ought not to know too much about.

"The Long Legislated For."

"Candida" has a sad little article in this week's *New Statesman*. She fears that when women—"the long legislated for"—get votes all women will make laws all the time, and she expresses a just opinion that this will be very tiresome. She perceives that even now Suffragists talk about things like Government and laws and votes. But that is what they are there for, not to teach people how to collect old china, or behave like the Cubists behave. No footballer would gain honours who spent his time on the field showing the crowd how to bud rose trees, though he may be a prime "buddist" in his own back garden.

The Dry Temperament of Man.

The Daily Telegraph sustains its broad-minded and cordially sympathetic attitude towards women's aspirations. Mr. W. L. Courtney however, writing in that journal on May 27th, informs his readers that "Molière, like Shakespeare, has too broad a humour to be fully appreciated in feminine circles." Is it because Mr. Courtney is anxious to bask in the sunshine of feminine approbation that he is himself a little trite in saying this kind of thing? However, he may be forgiven all for he provides a plum. He states that in the seventeenth century the temperament of a man was declared by some to be "warm and dry," and that of woman, "damp and humid," and that a great many extraordinary conclusions were drawn from this supposed contrast.

In Parliament.

Wednesday, May 20th.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.

Motion, by Mr. Tyson Wilson, to appoint a Committee to consider and report upon the anomalies created in the administration of the Workmen's Compensation Act. The motion was agreed to.

SALARIES OF MEDICAL WOMEN.

MR. SNOWDEN (Blackburn, Lab.) asked the Home Secretary if he was aware that the Board of Control for the Administration of the Mental Deficiency Act had advertised for male and female inspectors, who must be registered medical persons, and had offered salaries of £400 to men and £350 for women, and if he would explain why this difference of payment was made, seeing that the Board stated that there was no difference in the importance of the work of the men and women inspectors; whether the two women candidates had refused the post on account of the difference in salary, and if the post was still unfilled; why the practice of the Government Departments to pay medical officers the same salaries had been departed from in this case?

MR. MCKENNA (Home Secretary) replied to the effect that the rates were fixed by the Treasury because it was believed that suitable candidates could be found at the salaries offered. That it appeared that the proposed salaries complied with the recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Civil Service, that when conditions of employment are approximately the same the rates of pay should approximate to equality. That the two women candidates for the post of female inspector declined it on the ground of difference of salary, not because they thought it too small. The post had not been filled, but the matter was not at present urgent. There was no rule or practice requiring the salaries of men and women medical officers in the Government service to be the same.

In answer to a further question from MR. SNOWDEN, MR. MCKENNA expressed the opinion that "it could not be said that the work (of men and women medical officers) was identical."

MR. MACCALLUM SCOTT (Glasgow, Bridgeton, Lib.) asked if Mr. McKenna was aware that "a great many distinguished women economists are strongly opposed to the doctrine of equal pay for equal work, and think it would work disastrously to women."

MR. MCKENNA agreed with Mr. MacCallum Scott, but was magnanimous enough to say that he himself was quite willing to give equal pay for equal work, but he was not convinced that the work was equal. Of course, as Mr. McKenna is "not convinced" that the work is equal, there is an end of the matter, Mr. McKenna being apparently the final arbiter and judge of the relative value of the work of male and female medical inspectors.

Thursday, May 21st.

Government of Ireland Bill. Motion made, "That the Bill be read a third time."

Motion made and question proposed, "That the debate be now adjourned." Owing to continued disorder sitting suspended by the Speaker.

GIRLS' WAGES IN THE POST-OFFICE.

In answer to questions from LORD ROBERT CECIL (Hitchin, U.), and MR. LANE FOX (Barkston Ash, U.),

MR. HOBHOUSE (Postmaster-General) informed the House that the starting pay of female learners in the Provinces is five shillings a week, but wages above this figure are given when the first qualifying standard is reached. The hours of duty are forty-two a week, and units of age for entry to the class are fifteen to eighteen, and on or before two years' service every learner, if satisfactory in all respects, is offered an established appointment. Girl probationers in some cases start at 5s. a week, increases given after one year's service. The limits of age for entry are fourteen to sixteen, and all girl probationers who give satisfaction and can obtain a Civil Service certificate are eligible for the situation of telephonist or other permanent employment in the Post-Office after they have reached the age of sixteen, and are given permanent employment before they reach the age of nineteen. Mr. Hobhouse was unable to say without notice how many girls were employed at the wages of 5s. a week, nor what was the next step in wages.

Friday, May 22nd.

WEEKLY REST DAY BILL.

Moved by MR. GOULDING (Worcester, U.). Its rejection was moved by MR. BOOTH (Pontefract, Lib.). Hon. Members in their speeches touched upon a variety of subjects—ladies in lifts, militant suffragettes, the making of beds, the moral effect on the home life of a father's absence from the family circle on Sunday, new-laid eggs on Sunday, shaving on Sunday, and other equally weighty questions worthy of statesmen. Result: Bill defeated by 12 votes.

Monday, May 25th.

GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND BILL.

Bill read a third time, and passed by a majority of 77.

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT (OUTWORKERS).

On the motion for the adjournment of the House, SIR J. D. REES (U., Nottingham E.) asked the Government to consider "the cruel case of the married women outworkers in the lace trade."

MR. WEDGWOOD BENN (Lord of the Treasury), replying to Sir J. D. Rees, said that inquiries had been made into the case, and that after careful consideration the conclusion come to was that the married women outworkers could not be excluded without injustice to the single women outworkers, and that if both the married and single women outworkers were excluded a great injustice would be inflicted upon people who are in-workers and working in factories.

The House adjourned until Tuesday, June 9th.

WOMEN'S RIGHT TO BRITISH CITIZENSHIP.

Once an alien; always an alien.

The Women's Co-operative Guild sent a memorandum on the British Nationality and Status of Aliens Bill to the Standing Committee of the House of Commons, to which the measure has been referred. They desire the Bill to be amended so as to allow a woman who, being a British subject, marries an alien the power to retain her nationality on marriage, or to revert to her original nationality on widowhood, on the dissolution of the marriage, or on legal separation, if she so desires.

Unfortunately, the Standing Committee has rejected Mr. Dickinson's amendment, giving a woman the same right of deciding to what nationality she should belong as a man or a single woman has at present. It has also rejected an amendment providing that a British woman who had married an alien, and had become a widow, or had been divorced or legally separated, might, if she desired, cease to be an alien.

THE CHANNING ARNOLD CASE IN THE COMMONS.

MR. MORRELL (Burnley, L.) and others questioned the Under Secretary for India on the Channing Arnold case on May 19th:—

MR. MORRELL asked the Under-Secretary of State for India if he can give any particulars as to the civil action brought by Captain Finnie against Mr. Channing Arnold, in connection with the MacCormick case; whether this action is still proceeding; whether the costs of it are defrayed by the Government of Burma; whether the plaintiff is represented by the Government advocate; and whether, in view of the fact that Mr. Arnold has already suffered heavily, both by loss of liberty and loss of money, for the action that he took, and that the conduct of the Government has been sufficiently vindicated by the result of the appeal in the criminal case, the Secretary of State will now direct that the civil proceedings be discontinued?

Mr. C. ROBERTS: The action is for defamation, £1,000 damages and costs being claimed, and, so far as I am aware, it is till spending. The Government of Burma, in the discretion allowed them under rule, are defraying the costs, and the plaintiff is being assisted by the Government advocate. The charges against Captain Finnie have not been withdrawn by Mr. Arnold, and the Secretary of State is not prepared, on grounds personal to Mr. Arnold, or for the other reason cited, to take action which would deprive Captain Finnie of the remedy given him by law.

Mr. MORRELL: Is it not a fact that these proceedings were really started by the Government while Captain Finnie was actually away, and were not these mere civil proceedings by the Government against Mr. Arnold?

Mr. C. ROBERTS: The proceedings, I presume, were necessary in order that Captain Finnie should have the opportunity of answering the charges which have been made.

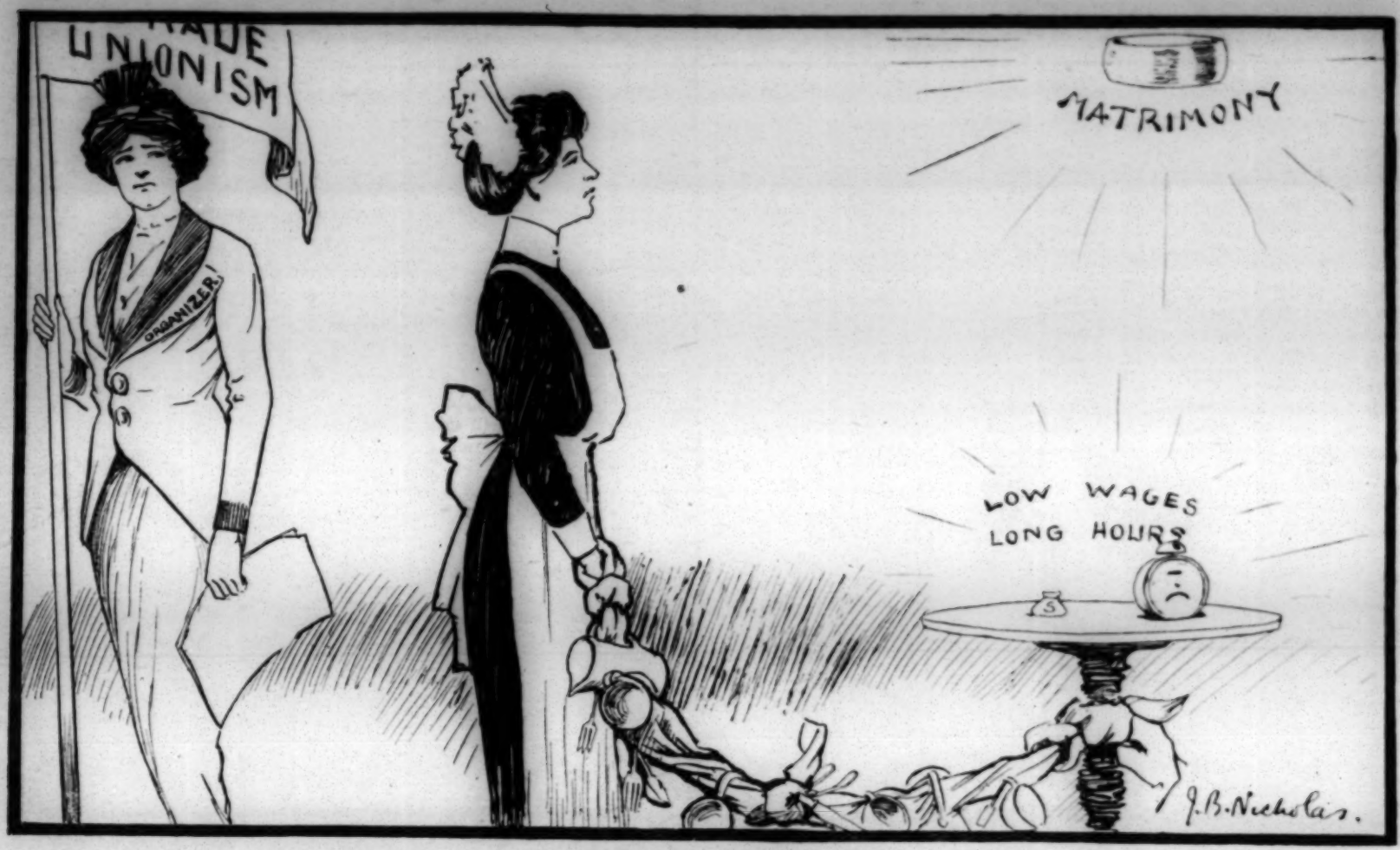
Mr. MACCALLUM SCOTT: Is it the intention of the Government, when it has vindicated itself by criminal proceedings, to identify itself by financial support with similar action brought against an official in his private capacity?

Mr. KING: Is there any precedent for this course of inquiry anywhere throughout the Empire?

Mr. C. ROBERTS: It is strictly in accordance with rule.

THOSE WOMEN AGAIN.

The special correspondent of *The Times* in Derry has made a wonderful discovery. It is this, that women are responsible for sending a Nationalist Member of Parliament to Westminster to represent Derry, "a city of Unionist and Protestant traditions." The women who do this do not vote, of course; they only work in the shirt factories of Derry. They come "in large numbers" from Donegal. They are Roman Catholics, but the head and



A WEAPON OF OPPRESSION.

The honourable badge of marriage becomes a weapon of oppression if any point to it to excuse the under-payment of women workers.

front of their offence is that "they bring with them their husbands." These husbands have "no employment except in their homes; they look after the house," and presumably the baby, while the wives work in the factories. The husbands, in addition to the work of the house, vote at Parliamentary elections, and "vote Nationalist to a man." There you are. The Donegal peasant wives, by their industry, enable their husbands to live at home and to vote. The special correspondent does not say whether the wives are paid wages which enable them to keep their husbands and families dependent on them in comfort and decency. On this point he maintains a discreet silence, but we may conclude that in this case also, what is sauce for the gander is not sauce for the goose, and that women are not given higher wages even when they have husbands and families to support.—E. P.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE FOR LOCAL PARLIAMENTS.

PRESIDENTS OF THE N.L.O.W.S. STATE THEIR POSITION.

To the Editor of "The Times." May 22nd.

SIR,—In view of the correspondence that has lately appeared in your columns on the above subject, the Executive Committee of the National League for Opposing Woman Suffrage, at their meeting yesterday, passed the following resolution, to which we shall be grateful if you will give publicity:—

"The Executive Committee of the N.L.O.W.S., while reaffirming their opposition to the Parliamentary vote for women, consider that the discussion of the franchise for possible Federal Parliaments is at present both premature and academic."—We are yours faithfully,

CURZON OF KEDLESTON,
WEARDALE, } Presidents of the League.

MRS. FAWCETT AGAIN REPLIES TO MRS. HUMPHRY WARD.

To the Editor of "The Times." May 23rd.

SIR,—Mrs. Humphry Ward's proposal, when stripped of ornamental accessories, amounts to this:—If the Suffrage organisations will abandon their main object and purpose, she, on her part, will personally (she cannot speak for the N.L.O.W.S.) abstain from opposing the granting of the Suffrage to women in local Parliaments, if such should at some future time be established.

May I venture to suggest that she should try the effect of a similar proposal on the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Clifford, and other leaders of Christian Churches, and assure them that if they will, as Churches, abandon and renounce Christianity she will promise henceforth personally to abstain from publishing any more Robert Elsmeres. I fancy they would say:—"You go on with your Robert Elsmeres, and we will go on with our Christianity."—Yours obediently,

MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT,
President, National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.

WOMEN WORKERS OF ALL NATIONS.

Suffrage Resolution Passed.

At the final Session of the International Council of Women Workers at Rome the following Women's Suffrage Resolution was proposed and passed unanimously and with acclamation:—

"Realising the rapidly changing character of problems that must now be considered by Governments, and seeing that these problems increasingly affect the moral and educational and industrial life of the people, it is increasingly important that women should recognise their responsibility in national life. This International Women's Congress reaffirms the earnest belief that the right of voting in Parliamentary and local elections should be given to women in all countries where representative Governments exist."

The Manchester Guardian points out that resolutions passed by the Council have all the more significance:—

"when it is remembered that they must be passed without a dissenting voice and that the National Councils who appoint the delegates are not made up of bodies which necessarily represent equal moral standard, equal laws for women, peace or Suffrage, but of bodies of women working for every kind of social reform. In all the councils, as in our own National Union of Women Workers, there are, no doubt, many individuals not in agreement with these resolutions. The resolutions, however, represent a strong majority of opinion among the organised women of the world."

The Quinquennial Sessions of 1919 will be held in Norway, the British delegation having withdrawn its invitation in favour of that country; but it is hoped that one of the interim meetings of the Executive Committee will be held in this country.

CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT.

The annual meeting of the Ladies' National Association for the abolition of State Regulation of Vice and for the Promotion of Social Purity was held in the Council Chamber, Caxton Hall, on Friday, 22nd inst.

A large audience was deeply interested in a speech by Mrs. James Gow on the Bishop of London's Bill (Criminal Law Amendment), introduced into the House of Lords, of April 28th of this year. Mrs. Gow traced the history of past legislation in this connection, notably the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1885, and the more recent Act of 1912, showing how their shortcomings rendered necessary the Act now under consideration.

The Act of to-day has four objects :—

(1) To raise "the age of consent" (left by the Act of 1912 at sixteen) to eighteen years;

(2) To raise from thirteen to sixteen the age at which "consent may be urged as a defence in cases of indecent assault";

(3) To extend from six to twelve months the time in which criminal proceedings can be taken against one charged with such offences;

(4) To take away the defence that a person so charged had "reasonable cause to believe" that the girl was above the protected age.

Mrs. Gow gave one or two cogent reasons for supporting these proposed alterations in the existing law; with regard to the importance of extending from six to twelve months the time-limit for prosecution in cases of criminal assault, she pointed out how frequently the girl victim would hide her shame and refuse to speak until her condition became obvious, when it was too late to obtain redress under the present law.

Speaking of the frequent defence offered by men who had outraged young girls—that the particular girl looked older than her years, Mrs. Gow instanced a recent case, where a man pleaded guilty to such an offence, and where the Judge explained this was a matter for the jury and not for the prisoner, and the jury deciding that the girl appeared above the protected age, the man, who pleaded guilty, was acquitted.

Those who were opposed to the Bill on the plea that it would open a path to the blackmailer might rest assured—as it was clearly shown through the working of past measure—that no jury would convict a man if there was the slightest suspicion or appearance of blackmail. The argument with regard to blackmail had been used to oppose legislation on this point on each occasion, but in actual practice these fears proved groundless.

A resolution was put to the meeting by the Chairman, Mr. Cecil Chapman, J.P., as follows :—

"That this meeting expresses the hope that the Criminal Law Amendment Bill introduced into the House of Lords by the Rt. Hon. and Rt. Rev. Bishop of London for the purpose of raising the age of consent from sixteen to eighteen will receive the sympathetic consideration of the House of Lords, and that the Government may be induced to take it up and to pass it into law as a Government measure."

This resolution was carried unanimously.

WOMEN AND THE CIVIL SERVICE.

A meeting was held on May 22nd by the Federation of Civil Service Women's Clerks and the National Industrial and Professional Women's Suffrage Society, to protest against two of the findings of the Majority Report of the Royal Commission on the Civil Service.

1. The refusal to women of equal opportunities with men in the service.

2. The unsupported and erroneous assertion that their work is not as efficient as men's.

Miss Gore Booth took the chair, and other speakers included Miss Thompson, Miss Charlesworth, Miss Cale, and Miss Sedgefield, all members of the Civil Service, and Miss Roper. The resolution of protest was passed enthusiastically, and moreover concluded by affirming the vital necessity for an immediate measure for the enfranchisement of women.

The Chairman, in her opening remarks, emphasised the interest of *all* women in the struggle of the Civil Service clerks for equal opportunities and pay with men, not only because they are affected by the stigma put on *all* women by the Commissioners, but because any change in one part of the labour market is reflected all through. She pointed out that though the Commission had reported in favour of equal pay for women where the work they did approximated to that of men, it was easy for the officials to arrange that women should not have the opportunity of doing the same work. On an occasion when a change of work had been made, a high official had said in reply to Mr. Philip Snowden, "The change was made to avoid criticisms as to rates of pay." The distinction made, in fact, by the officials between work suitable for men and women is purely arbitrary. The question of equal opportunity is, therefore, bound up with that of equal pay. Miss Thompson followed, and proposed the resolution, which was later seconded by Miss Charlesworth. Both speakers examined the findings of the Commission in detail. The question was never argued from a selfish standpoint; speakers laid quite as much stress on the good of the service as on the need of the individual worker. Quite apart from the fact that consideration for the needs of the workers is necessary for the efficiency of the service, the speakers ask for no special favour to be shown to women, only "be blind to sex, and open your eyes to merit."

The audience and the speakers being drawn mainly from the ranks of those who are actually suffering from the unfair conditions now existing, might have been excused had they shown a little bitterness, but some of the more preposterous assertions of the Commissioners provoked only laughter of an obviously good-humoured kind. For instance, it is claimed as a defect in women that they retire on marriage. One would hardly guess, in reading this part of the evidence, that the retirement is *compulsory*, and that only 3 per cent. leave annually for this reason. Another "defect" is the "disability" of women for working at night, regardless of the fact that men clerks are not often called upon for night duty, while it is part of the routine of a nurse's life. Another statement which brought the house down was that women are *shielded from the rough and tumble of life by men*. It was well said in regard to this, that "*poverty* is the rough and tumble of life," and that the rates of pay associated with women's work are no protection from that. These same low salaries account, at least in part, for the slightly higher rate of sickness among women (only four days per annum above that of men).

One or two other points stand out from the numerous extracts read from the report. There was one Commissioner who thought it would be difficult to have a system of promotion for men and women alike, *purely by the accident of merit*. (What about the accident of sex?) The placid opinion of the Commissioners that women are content with monotony roused strong expressions of disapproval, but it must be repeated that the patience and good humour with which the audience received the many inconsistent and sex-biassed statements of the Commission was surprising. There were cries of "Shame!" only a few times, notably on hearing of Sir A. King's remark, "Women are employed because they are *cheap*." Another resolution, asking for a women's representative on the new section of the Treasury was also carried.

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

INDIA.

The following paragraph appeared in *India* on May 22nd :—

"A Bombay Government Resolution notifies the appointment of a Consultative Committee to consider from time to time the question of the development of moral instruction in schools in relation to public needs. This is the result of the recommendation made last year by Mr. F. J. Gould, of the Moral Education League. The members of the Committee include Mr. Pattani and Sir R. G. Bhandarkar.

The same issue reports the arrival in England of a deputation from the Indian National Congress, who are visiting England at the invitation of Lord Crewe, to express their views on the proposed reconstruction of the Council of India. It contains also a review of an article in the *Christian Commonwealth* by Mrs. Besant, from which we quote a few words :—

"India wants no murderers, and her educated classes detest crime, political or other. The anarchical movement is alien, not native, and is inspired and directed from abroad. The National Congress has steadfastly worked along constitutional lines; the attempt by the party of violence to capture it at Surat met with ignominious failure; it stands as the representative of orderly and constitutional progress, and asks only that India shall be recognised as a nation, shall be given self-government, and shall form an integral part of the Empire, composed of self-governing communities. . . India is willing that the change from foreign autocracy to self-government shall come gradually, but it must come steadily; the aim must be recognised and the progress towards it must be perceptible. There is no disturbance in India of a serious nature, the whole country is enthusiastically loyal to the Crown, and the constituency is provided by the Minto-Morley reforms. The new difficulty is that while educated India has been moving steadily forward in the love of liberty and the use of representative institutions, England has been as steadily retrogressing from all her old traditions. The practice of autocracy has corrupted the mother of free institutions, and the deputation comes to ask England to close the widening gulf."

DENMARK.

We have received from Copenhagen a further account of the doings of Frau Agnete Bandity, the pioneer woman sea captain. She has started a new track for steamers on the Firth of Iselfjord and Roeskildifjord, and has given it the name of "the line of mail steamers of Iselfjord." This new route is of great value both for passengers and cargo, on account of its connection with other mail steamer routes. Frau von Bandity has also formed a joint stock company for the export of fish, and has successfully petitioned Parliament for that purpose. We are told that :—

"In the early morning the steamers gather the results of the night's catch from the fishing boats, bringing it to the nearest railway station, where it is packed for export and despatched abroad by the quickest route. Frau von Bandity is the pioneer of this most practical profession for women, and she has, besides, built a beautiful little hotel in Röring, a landing place at which the steamers call."

NORWAY.

The enfranchised women of Norway are working together with the men to secure important legislative reforms. One of these concerns children, and a correspondent informs us that proposals for such legislation will probably be ready by the autumn. From *The Times'* Norwegian Supplement (May 18th) we learn that the State Insurance Act is now undergoing amendments in favour of women, although the present Act is considerate of their needs, compared, for example, with our own Health Insurance Act.

"At the present time the period of six weeks after confinement during which a woman is prevented by law from working is *considered a period of sickness*, and the sick benefit—two-thirds of her wages—is paid."

A further grant is now proposed (about £2.4 as soon as the child is born); and the same grant is also proposed for the uninsured wife of an insured man, as well as free medical attendance and midwifery at 1s 1½d. a day for six weeks after confinement.

Correspondence.

PORTSMOUTH CONFERENCE OF THE FEDERATION ABOLITIONNISTE INTERNATIONALE.

(June 15th—18th.)

MADAM,—This Conference of "Abolitionists" will not receive the public attention which it deserves unless the name and aim of "Abolitionists" is cleared from misconception in the public mind.

The International Federation stands for the truth-principle enunciated by its founder, Josephine Butler, in the modern crusade against the social evil and the social scourge. Its objective is the promotion of "social health." "Social health" depends on sound morals more than on sound medicine. The name of its last President, the late Professor James Stuart, will vouch to-day with many for the fact—"mens sana in corpore sano"—of its corporate existence.

But the name "Abolitionist" demands explanation. It suggests at once the idea of sweeping away some servile institution. That is its meaning in this connection. The servile institution which Abolitionists rose to sweep out of existence is "State regulation," which plunges the "unfortunate"—whether she call herself (as was once the case in England) a "queen's woman," or be called by the historian a "high-priestess of civilisation"—into a condition of spiritual and political servitude. "State regulation" failed because it committed a double fault. It ignored the rightful liberty of the woman and the just responsibility of the man.

The truth-principle enunciated by Josephine Butler was the liberty—the eternal value—"sub specie eternitatis"—of the human soul; her immediate application of that truth was a "Habeas Corpus" Act in her own country for the unfortunate women. "Abolitionism" is simply the principle involved in that political application—whatever form it may take—and the application of that principle the world over. The fact that "State regulation" still prevails, under one form or another, abroad, and lingers even within the British Empire, is sufficient explanation of the Federation's name. Its sphere is international; its rallying cry is still "Abolish, abolish, abolish!"

But what immediate claim, your readers may perhaps ask, has it in this island, where "State regulation" at least has gone for ever? To that question there are many answers; one must here suffice.

The work of abolition is not done when the outward chain is broken, whatever be the nature of the servitude. The work of setting the slave a free man upon his feet has only then begun. The work must be constructive as well as destructive. "Abolitionists" of another kind have found it so in the case of the negro. But "Abolitionists" have in the present case to face a more complex problem of construction, which has many factors, medical as well as moral, spiritual as well as social, economic as well as political—factors rooted in the will of "fortunate" men and women as well as of the "unfortunate" woman. If liberty must form the basis, as "Abolitionists" believe, of a conscience on her part in this matter, the sense of social responsibility for the social evil and the social scourge can alone secure the triumph of their principle, and reach towards the true objective of the social health for which "Abolitionism" ultimately stands.

The subject of the Conference—"A Constructive Policy"—should ensure the attention of all who believe that the time has fully come for England in this matter "to rise up and build." The sessions of the Conference combine—in the light (as its programme proves) of the latest expert knowledge from Europe and America—the complementary aspects of public morals and public health which can never be divorced. The site of the Conference is typical of the issues at stake. The hour, in which the nation awaits the verdict of a Royal Commission, is a golden opportunity for claiming public discussion.

The *personnel* of the Conference will make its counsel of value. It has the hearty support of the Bishop of Winchester in his own diocese; Mr. Lyon Blease is well-known as a champion of the "Emancipation of Women"; Mr. W. C. Dawson will speak as a lawyer, as an administrator in his own city (Hull), and as a traveller who has studied the question in many parts of the world; and Sir Victor Horsley is to deal with the "Educational" aspect. Other nations are sending representatives who command attention. M. Ives Guyot, formerly Minister of Commerce in France, and a distinguished economist, is also a veteran "Abolitionist," who suffered imprisonment for the cause forty years ago. Dr. Santoliquido, late Minister of Public Health in Italy, is a physician and statesman of world-wide fame. Dr. Lomholt (Copenhagen) brings unimpeachable statistics of the voluntary, gratuitous, and accessible treatment organised in Denmark, as also in Italy, without distinction of sex or penal accompaniments. No one living is better qualified than M. de Meuron (Switzerland) to expound the principles which have been worked out by "Abolitionists" for guidance in the whole field.

Lastly, the Federation, by striking here this note of "A Constructive Policy" in its own original key—so happily described in the programme as that of "Liberty with Responsibility"—discloses the "true inwardness" of "Abolitionism" and its significance for our own as well as for other countries to-day.

SCRUTATOR.

A REPLY TO MISS BAGNALL.

DEAR MADAM,—May I reply to three points in a letter from Miss Helen Bagnall in your issue of May 15th? She is referring to what she calls "mis-statements" made by me at Salisbury.

(1) I did not say that the birth-rate in Australia had either risen or fallen. I said that it was causing grave anxiety to Australian politicians. It is lower than it ought to be if Australia is to belong to Australians. This, I believe, is a fact.

(2) When I said that 4,000 Bills had been introduced in the Californian Legislature in one session since women had the vote, I was speaking in round numbers. The actual figures are (for the 1913 session):—

Bills	3,738
Constitutional amendments ...	149
Total	3,887

This was not since 1911, but in 1913.

(3) I had said that infant mortality was mostly due to ignorance on the part of women. Miss Bagnall stated that, according to the British Medical Association, most of it was due to the prevalence of vice. I do not like discussing vice at a public meeting, and merely said that doctors were not always right. I should now like to point out to Miss Bagnall that the prevalence of vice is largely due to ignorance on the part of women. If women were taught as a profession how to train their children morally, as well as mentally and physically, there would be far less vice. I therefore repeat that the root of the evil is ignorance on the part of mothers.

GWLADYS GLADSTONE SOLOMON.

THE CHANNING ARNOLD CASE.

MADAM,—Some of your readers may be disturbed by the letter of Sir Herbert Thirkell White in *The Times* of May 15th. So it is proper to let them know that, in response to requests from some of them, and from members of both Houses of the Legislature, I at once answered it, but *The Times* refused to print the answer.

See, however, the three excellent paragraphs about that letter in *Truth* of 20/5/14, p. 1239. There is also to be an article in the *English Review* for June.

If ever there was a case in which women should stand by each other, this is one. Most decent men will help them.

DAVID ALEC WILSON.

TO CITY SUFFRAGE-WORKERS.

You have foregone the scented wind of May,
That pencils silver shadows in the hay,
And stirs the white cow-parsley in the hedges,
Speedwells and buttercups at the wood's edges,
And scatters wych-elm pods upon the way,
—Because of those who, chained in squalor and gloom,
Have never watched the first wild roses bloom,
Those who have never been
Glad of clear sunlight; who have never seen
The silver hawthorn trees, the golden broom,
Nor sunset's light behind the hills die down.
Although you share their springlessness in town,
Be glad! . . . . When we are dead
Their children shall possess the lovely reaping
Of your long toil, whenas they carol, leaping,
In undimmed fields you now forbear to tread.

E. B. C. J.

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WIND AND TIDE.

By E. RENTOUL ESLER.

Author of "The Wardlaws," "The Trackless Way," "The Way they Loved at Grimpat," "A Maid of the Manse," &c.

SYNOPSIS.

Kate Burnsley is the daughter of a rough Irish farmer, but her mother had been brought up in a refined and cultured home, and had only married Burnsley because her father, the Rev. John Moffatt, was reduced to poverty. On her mother's death, Kate takes her place as mistress of the farm, and performs her duties well, but she is in thoroughly uncongenial surroundings. Everything in the house that stirs her imagination, that seems beautiful, has come to Kate from her mother's people. Kate worships her brother Neil, who is training as a solicitor, and resents the admiration of Dick Nelson, a handsome but rough young man, who is obliged to work on her father's farm, because his people had wasted away all their possessions while he was still a child. Biddy Doyle, who comes in to "lend a hand" in the kitchen, has a great admiration for Dick, and, deeply as she is devoted to Kate, rather resents her attitude towards the young man

Neil comes home for a short holiday, and brother and sister plan out a delightful future together. Her brother's companionship makes Richard Nelson's wooing all the more repugnant to Kate. One day, however, on her way home from market, she is rescued by Nelson from a mad dog, and in the first grateful consciousness of deliverance allows him to kiss her.

CHAPTER V.

She pushed him away with a weak gesture. "It is over now," she said, and laughed unsteadily.

"Sit here." He pointed where a grey rock jutted from the thin turf.

She sat down, and covered her face with hands that still shook.

"I might have been bitten," she said, "and if so, if there had been the smallest wound, I should have gone mad too, like that."

"Don't think of it," Dick replied, huskily.

"I shall think of it always, always. I was always sorry for hunted things. I shall be sorrier than ever now."

Then she picked up her hat, and adjusted it with hands that shook.

"I am very, very much obliged to you," she went on, smiling valiantly. "I am afraid I have not always been as nice to you as I might have been, but I will never forget to-day, never."

"I would lay down my life for you," he faltered.

"I don't want you to talk like that, even if you have been very, very good this time," she answered, hastily.

"It does not matter to you that I love you," he pursued, unsteadily.

"I don't want love." Then, to change the topic of discourse, she asked whose the dog was.

"I don't know; some stray," he answered, indifferently.

"What makes them mad?"

"Want of water they say."

"Who say, dogs?" she asked, with a piteous attempt at archness.

"No, people."

He could scarcely articulate. For a moment he had been deliriously happy, had held her in his arms, had felt her cling to him, had even kissed her hair unrebuked, and now the vision was fading, the golden gate was closing in his face, and commonplace, grey things were laying hold on him again.

She had risen; and he rose too, and stood beside her. When he led her to that seat he had seen himself, with his mind's eye, seated there too, his arm about her, her face pressing his breast. The revulsion was too sudden, too harsh.

"Is what has happened to make no difference?" he asked.

"What difference should it make?" she replied, coldly. "I have said I am grateful; that I shall never forget how much I owe you. Is that not enough?"

"I only did it because I love you. Do you think I should have risked what I did for another woman?"

"I am sure you are brave enough to make an effort for any woman."

"Well, I am not; not brave at all, unless where I love."

"Do you not think it rather a shame to say things I do not want to hear, just because a piece of bad luck has put me in your power?" she asked.

He did not answer; and, after a moment, she added: "I will go home now."

"May I go with you?" he asked, with huffy humility.

"I would rather not. I can take care of myself now that I know to turn a corner when dangerous things are running straight." She smiled, firmly determined to be pleasant.

"I won't leave you. There is no certainty that that brute is not running free still."

"But I don't want your company." In imagination she saw a number of neighbourly countenances beaming goodwill on her and her escort, and that hardened her heart.

"And to-morrow you will be cold to me again," he stammered.

"Not unless you deserve it. Now go; don't worry me, there's a good fellow."

"I would have torn the brute's head off if it had been the only way to save you."

"I am glad that was not necessary." She spoke gently and civilly, but her natural *hauteur* was reasserting itself.

"At any rate, I had you in my arms; I kissed you," he said, with a tone of triumph in his pained voice.

She drew herself up, and a spark of pale fire burned in each blue eye.

"It is because you are capable of saying things like that that I dislike you," she replied.

Then the devil entered into the heart of Richard Nelson. "Do you know what I should like to do now—this moment? I should like to take you by force, and strangle you with a kiss, and then take you home, and say: 'She was cold to me, and I killed her.' Men do things like that sometimes."

"But I am not afraid of you." Her head was held high; in the stern pallor of her young face her angry eyes were as dark as sapphires.

"You treat me like a cur," he said, with a sob.

"If you are a cur you deserve that I should."

"There are times when I do not know if I love or hate you most."

"You may do either for aught I care."

Her voice quivered with wrath. Her very lips were white.

"Then I'll love you." He flung his arms round her, and crushed her against his breast. She felt so small and frail in his grasp that his strong muscles ached with the desire to make an end of her. He felt for an instant like a fierce creature of the jungle that is joyful as it tears a smaller creature limb from limb. Then his arms relaxed. He kissed her passionately several times on the mouth; then he set her free.

She staggered as her feet touched the ground. For an instant she stood breathless. Then: "I will never speak to you while I live, and do not ever dare to approach or address me. You are a brute; you are a coward," she said, huskily.

Then she went away from him. Something had stunned her innocent girl's mind; it seemed that something dreadful, something outrageous had happened to her. "I will never speak to him as long as I live," she said, sombrely; and she meant it.

The man looked after her. "I suppose that makes an end of everything," he said. But he was not penitent yet.

* * * * *

"What is it, mavourneen? You are as pale as a ghost, and as sad."

Neil Burnsley was fond of using Irish words. It had become something of a fashion among young book lovers at that period. Kate, who was not bookish, never employed them.

"I suppose it is what doctors call a nerve shock. To have been hunted by a mad dog is not pleasant."

"They killed the brute; and, after all, it bit no one."

"That is lucky."

The farm people knew that Kate had been in the way of the dog, but no one knew the circumstances, either of her danger or her deliverance. She had remained in her room the next day, and the doctor had been to see her, and had prescribed rest and a tonic. Before she resumed her usual habits Nelson had left the farm. His engagement was by the week, and easily terminable.

Neil Burnsley often came home for a week end; hearing that his sister was not quite herself, he had asked to leave early on Saturday, and had reached the farm in time for tea. The brother and sister had this meal by themselves, the men getting their's sent to their place of work, and her father sharing with them. When the tea things had been washed and put away the two had talked, but without their usual interested animation.

"I think there is something of the crock in each of us," Neil said, looking at his sister, soberly.

"You do not feel worse, do you?" the girl asked, anxiously.

"No, but it is tiresome never to be able to do the things that belong to one's time of life—never to be able to join in an athletic game, or to swim or run or dance—it would not be so strange if every handicapped chap like me fell into drink."

"Don't," she said, rather wistfully.

"I don't mean to; as a matter of fact, whisky makes me sick. I only mean that when a fellow is in the dumps he has queer kinds of impulses"

"Are you unhappy?"

"No; but when the weather is dull my spirits sink."

"I wish father had let you stay on the farm, and had let me learn a business of some kind. I don't suppose he thwarts us on purpose, but he does it as well as if he had planned it."

"He is not so bad. It does us good to grumble to each other. We must remember that the old man has not things very jolly either. There are times when I feel it is human destiny to be sorrowful."

"We only think that because we are Irish, and rather pride ourselves on the tear in Erin's eye."

"We did not put the tear there. But let us be cheerful! Never mind, if a mad dog has hunted you, and if gloomy demons hunt me often. Now do your farmyard; it always makes me laugh."

"It is silly," she said, testily. "Never mind, it's funny too."

She rose obediently, and going outside the door, announced herself and company: "Mariam Wheat's Farmyard," she said. Then she entered just has she was, but with her skirt gathered in one hand, while with the other she scattered imaginery grain.

"Hens first; they move quicker," she said, and then she mimicked a hen, advancing sedately, scratching the ground with one foot, looking at what was under it, her head on one side, and a reflective cluck issuing from her throat. Next came the rooster, with inflated crop, pushing his wives to right and left, and then calling them, when he had impressed them sufficiently with their unimportance. Then came the half-grown chickens, running with ungainly movements,

looking at the bare ground where evidently only a few grains were perceptible to their observation. Then Kate became herself again, scattering more seed from her apron, then the ducks waddled to the front in their turn, followed by the pigeons, who took little winged skips here and there, like nothing so much as coquettish old maids. Then the geese arrived slowly, their heads in the air, their strides longer and slower than the corpulent waddling of the ducks. To Neil's vivid imagination the room swarmed with all the fowls of the farmyard, and among them all the farmyard queen moved, distributing food and counsel alternately with sedate fussiness that was inimitable.

Neil laughed till he cried. The fowls put the blue devils to utter rout.

"It is just awfully funny. I wish you could see yourself do it; you cannot think how funny it is," he said. "It is genius, or hypnotism, the thing that enables Indian jugglers to show people what cannot be photographed and is not really there. Do you know, I think there ought to be a pot of money in that kind of thing, if you could only show it in the right quarter."

"I am fond of money," she said, soberly, "but I would not do that in public for a Prime Minister's pay."

"I don't suppose you would, though there is no harm in it. People will always pay to be made laugh. Now if we could placard the walls of some big city with the announcement, "She is Coming, Miriam Wheat, the Farmyard Queen," it might catch on like anything, you never can tell."

"I would not do it, my boy, if it would bring me ten thousand. Yes, *ten thousand* a year. What, play that tom-foolery before strange people! Git out wid ye, do. Do you know, one person on this farm saw me do it once, and I think it is one reason why I have hated him ever since. No, no," she went on, hurriedly. "My dream is of life with you in a lady's house—small, you know, but with everything in it in proportion, and in harmony. You will make the income, and will give me the house money. But just think, Neil, if you should marry when we had got everything right, and the strange woman should dispossess me of all the things I had collected, and of you, how awfully awful that would be!"

"I shall never marry," Neil answered, soberly.

(*To be continued.*)

A Present-Day Child's Book of Verses.*

Once upon a time, when the present writer first trod this earth, there lived a race of human beings who felt themselves very important, and spent their time in delightful "excursions and alarums," but whose existence was chequered by a good deal of more or less metaphorical kicking and cuffing on the part of another race of humans called (as was afterwards found from a study of Miss Yonge's novels) "elders." All that was a long time ago. In these days, the sturdy little race referred to seems almost extinct, and there has come in its place a sort of abstraction called "The State and the Child," which people write articles about, and which is mixed up with other abstractions called "clinics," or "curriculums," or "pure milk supply," or even adenoids and non-flammable flannelette. And the horrible thing is that they are not abstractions at all, but real, and it is right and necessary to talk about them in articles, and to act too.

But, nevertheless, it is delightful to discover the sturdy little race is all alive and kicking still, and that one can read about them, and see pictures of them in a charming book called "The Littlest One."

According to this book all kinds of exciting things are still happening. For example, the following about The Nugly Little Man makes your flesh creep:—

"I 'tend that in the garden
Lives a nugly little man,
An' he always wants to catch me,
If he can—if he can;
But I 'tend that I am quicker than the nugly little man.

* * * * * *

"I 'tend he sits an' watches
In the hedge as I go by,
And he pulls such nugly faces,
'Cos he thinks he'll make me cry;
But I 'tend I always laugh at him, an' whistle goin' by.

"And sometimes when I'm thinking
Of the nugly little man,
An' its gettin' nearly bedtime,
Then I wish I'd not began
A-'tending he was such a nugly, nugly little man."

Then it is encouraging to hear that some of the small humans run away from unpleasant duties, just as if they were big:—

AUNT PRISCILLA.

"When Aunt Priscilla comes to tea
They always send an' call for me
To 'come this minute.'
I run away and hide, but though
I've hid in every place I know,
They find me in it.

"They pull me out an' scold me then,
And take me to the parlour when
I'm brushed and proper.
And Aunt Priscilla's there in black,
And pats my head an' jerks it back;
I wish they'd stop her.

"She sez, 'And how is It to-day?'
And, 'Will It kiss Its Auntie, eh?
Why, It's been crying!'

* * * * * *

"She's come this afternoon to tea;
I've found a box the size of me;
I'm hidin' in it.
They're callin' near . . . an' nearer still.
They'll find me out—I know they will
In half a minute."

Then again, the ever present problem of the relation of bed-time and wrong-doing during the day is treated of:—

"When I was naughty an' sent up to bed,
And wouldn't go up—I was growing, I said,
Too *big* to be sent—Mother jus' shook her head;
It's curious, she didn't believe that I was,
And didn't do like what I thought she would, 'cos
She sent me upstairs to bed.

"When I was naughty an' sent up to bed,
And somehow I cried on the stairway an' said,
I was only jus' *little*, then Mother, instead,
Came suddenly to me, with arms open wide;
Her eyes were all shiny; 'Jus' little,' she cried,
An' carried me down from bed."

But, indeed, the problems get "cur'ouser and cur'ouser" towards the end, so we must just quote a few lines about one more, and stop, but not till we have made it quite clear that everyone must buy and read for themselves, on penalty of only owning dull books, when they might own those that are playful, and tender, and true.

BUTTERCUP.

"I've got a fairy in a box;
I made her all myself.
I always keep her safe away
On Mother's shelf.

"I thought of her an' cut her out,
But Mother sewed her up.
An' then I picked a name for her:
It's Buttercup.

"I mustn't tell you what she's like,
She asked me not to say,
In case you tried to make her, if
You knew the way.

"And then she'd not know which to be
If there were two of her, you see."

* *The Littlest One*, by Marion St. John Adcock (Mrs. Sidney H. Webb). Illustrated by Margaret Tennant. 2s. 6d. G. G. Harrap & Co., Portsmouth Street, W.C.

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All Business Communications *to be addressed to The Manager*, The Common Cause, 2, *Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., and all* Advertisements *must reach the Office not later than first post on Tuesday. Advertisement Representative, S. R. Le Mare.*

Notice.—*This paper is obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by midday on Friday. If any difficulty is found in obtaining it locally, please communicate with The Manager,* The Common Cause.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies being a body which exists solely to obtain the enfranchisement of women, holds no official view upon any other topic. Opinions expressed upon other subjects must not be regarded as necessarily those of the Union.

The Young Lady in Business.

The middle-class woman in comfortable circumstances has the even tenour of her days ruffled from time to time by the servant trouble. Some extremists even say servants cannot be got. Girls in these days like to go into a shop or a factory, and despise the amenities of "a gentleman's family." To the middle-class woman of the suburbs it is all mysterious and inconvenient, and not very nice of the girls. The whole thing, too, is made more difficult because the daughters of the middle-class women in comfortable circumstances also tend to seek a professional or business career for themselves instead of being willing to dust the drawing-room or help the housemaid with the beds.

Suffragists see differently. To them also, if they are housewives it is inconvenient, but it is not mysterious, and it is on the whole quite nice. Indeed, it is part of their lives—the breaking of bonds, the striking off of chains. The girls aspire to a fuller life. Ignorantly and with many crude mistakes and sillinesses, they are working something out.

During the last few weeks undomesticated females (even those on the right side of the law) have been heard of a good deal. The Press generally has commented on the habit of public authorities of banning marriage by dismissing efficient medical women and efficient women teachers if they follow a natural human destiny. *The Daily Herald* has given encouragement to the Waitresses' Union, and has called attention once again to the rates of pay and conditions of work of the women employees in the service of the great catering companies. Last week the Shop Assistants' Union was forward in the promotion of a fine demonstration at the Queen's Hall against fines, deductions, and living-in; and the night following this a remarkably impressive gathering of women civil servants at Holborn Hall, was presided over by Miss Gore Booth.

What do these things mean? They have nothing to do with the Suffragist "stage army," the hundred or two professional agitators whom our opponents would have the public believe, voice a demand which is no demand, which has indeed, no backing among the common-sense, reasonable, womanly women who matter. Yet the main is flooding in.

The present is, however, a time of trial for women. What of the young ladies in business? And what of their sisters in the Civil Service or the teaching profession? Many of them are staunch and true. But what of the others? People sometimes smile because a girl in a draper's shop likes to be called a young lady. There may be something to smile at (Eliza Doolittle, in "Pygmalion," is quite amusing when she says she likes to be called Miss Doolittle), but let those who smile be quite sure they smile also because a man holding His Majesty's Commission likes to be known as an officer and a gentleman. It is perhaps not so absurd as it seems to desire to bear an honourable title, if you recognise also the responsibility of bearing it honourably. Now the time of testing is upon them the young ladies must see to it that they behave "as such." Let there be no idea among the waitresses that if one of them has a chance of marriage, her low wages and poor conditions are only her own concern, and do not matter. Let the women shop assistants see that the demand for "full citizen rights for all workers" emblazoned

upon the Union's banner is made in real earnest, and that their fellows the men assistants, understand clearly that the women expect them to stand by them in this. Let the professional women also be staunch; let the unmarried teacher back to the full the demand of "marriage no bar," let the women within the N.U.T. press on till that great Union learns its A B C of democracy. Let the whole mass of women Civil Servants unite in exposing any masculine pomposities or inanities in the Holt Report. Let young ladies, and older ladies too, of all classes and ranks join to sweep into a deserved limbo all "gentilities," all conceptions of ladylikeness as allied to inefficiency, or low pay, or bad housing, or servile dependence, or playing a fellow woman false, and let them unite in a new army of chivalry. In this army let her to whom social surroundings, or a happy marriage, or a distinguished career, or innate vigour of mind and character, have given an advantage, use this advantage, not for herself, but for the others, dedicating her strength to the weakness of the weakest of her sisters.

This is the good old hackneyed "noblesse oblige" freshened up again, and any woman, whether in business, or the professions, or at home, who lives up to it, helps to revive the honour due to the name of lady, helps to raise that name from the deserved contempt into which the treacheries of a servile race of women have brought it.

Against Fines, Deductions, and Living-In.

The "Great National Demonstration" held at the Queen's Hall on May 21st, to demand the abolition of fines, deductions, and living-in, should go far in bringing about the hopes of its organisers. The hall was crowded; the audience was not only enthusiastic, but remarkably practical. There was some eloquence in the speakers, but it was mostly the eloquence of fact; generalisations appealed less than the hammer, hammer, hammer of the phrases, *no deductions, no fines, no living-in*. A few banners were hung in the hall, and noticeable among the mottoes they bore were, "The Unity of the Workers is the Salvation of the World" (Palmers Green Shop Assistants), and "We demand Shorter Hours, a Living Wage, and Full Citizen Rights for all Shop Workers." The chair was taken about 8.15 by the Bishop of Oxford, and among the speakers who supported him were Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P., Mrs. Tennant, Mr. Neil Primrose, M.P., Mr. Stephen Walsh, M.P., and others.

The Bishop declared the matter for consideration that night was as important as Welsh Church Disestablishment or Home Rule, for it concerned "the flesh and blood, the aspirations and prospects of a vast number of our brothers and sisters." And through his speech he spoke again and again of the women workers as well as of the men. The demand they made was, rightly, for a greater share of material welfare in return for their work, but also for a fuller recognition of the personality of the worker.

In regard to features of the present system, the Bishop quoted Mr. Wells' "Kipps," "We've got into a beastly drain pipe, and we've got to move along until we die." When speaking of the assertion that living in promotes morality, the Chairman's "I deny it" was received with loud applause.

Among the other speakers were Lord Henry Bentinck, whose vigorous directness was well appreciated; Mrs. Tennant, who, as she told the meeting, "twenty-six years ago as an agitator, then as an investigator, as a factory inspector, and again now as an agitator," has worked against this system; Mr. Primrose, Mr. Stephen Walsh, and several of the "workers" whose lives are directly affected by the system the meeting desired to abolish. Mr. Walsh made clearly and decisively the point that the woman worker needs enfranchisement for her protection. A resolution demanding, in effect, that all fines, deduction of wages, and the living-in system, be abolished by law was adopted with enthusiasm.

A Feminist Manifesto in 1789.

(*From the French of Marcelle Tinayre.*)

"You have assembled, Gentlemen, in order to advise as to the best methods to be adopted for summoning the next 'States-General.' An interval of 195 years makes it almost impossible to conform to former methods; on the other hand, none of the fine Assemblies of the 'States-General'—neither that held in Tours in 1483, nor those following—can serve as a model for the forthcoming Assembly. All, Gentlemen, were equally irregular, because we were not summoned to attend them. Yet we constitute the most sane and the best part of the nation. . . ."
—*From "La Dépêche," Toulouse.*

It was thus that the women of Provence addressed the members of the "States-General," on the eve of their assembly, in 1789.

Mr. Guiseppe Giusti publishes in *Il Sècolo* an interesting study of this very rare document. Published, no doubt, at Marseilles, and without the printer's name, the exact title of the memorial runs as follows: "Claim of the women of Provence to admission to the States-General." It was almost at once withdrawn from circulation and forbidden, "as bringing contempt upon order and public security."

The ladies of Provence had not waited for the proclamation of the Rights of Man to proclaim the Rights of Woman. Their memorial, which even to-day appears very daring, is logically conceived, clearly drawn up, with as much moderation as force, and at times with a frankness as audacious as it is ingenuous.

"It is not extraordinary that barbarous nations should keep us infamously imprisoned in their seraglios, and that they should have excluded us from all share in public life. But that in France, where we are the channel of all the graces, where we occupy an important place in society, no one should have thought as yet of admitting us to the States-General seems to us difficult to believe. It was reserved to you, Gentlemen, to wipe out this insult, and to give to the world a great example of French gallantry."

But the Provençal ladies had no pretensions to forming a "Fourth Estate."

"That," they write, "we are well aware, would be unconstitutional. The Clergy, the Nobility, the Third Estate, those are the natural divisions of the nation. We ask that our sex should be divided into three orders, like the male sex, and that our representatives should be distributed among the three Chambers, in proportion to the number of members which shall be chosen.

"The abbesses, prioresses, canonesses, and nuns will form our Clergy; women of title or of noble birth our Nobility; and all the others shall be our Third Estate.

"Every young girl or woman over fifteen years of age shall be entitled to take part in the elections, but it would be expedient that those eligible for election should have given a citizen to the State. We believe this condition to be necessary in the interests of the social body, because an innocent and timid young woman would have somewhat limited ideas with which to oppose the coarse arguments of our antagonists. . . ."

It will be observed that the authors of the memorial had skilfully answered beforehand the objections which would certainly be brought forward. The belief that maternity gives to a woman the highest claim to all the other rights of citizenship, this belief, which even to-day is admitted with difficulty, and which is, nevertheless, so just, so logical, and even so respectable, is dexterously handled and developed. In the first place the authors comment on the influence which women exercise over ministers of religion, soldiers, accustomed by the traditions of chivalry to defend the weaker sex, "impassive magistrates," who yield to the solicitations of charming litigants, and citizens of low rank who owe their elevation in society to the influence of their wives! If women are thus powerful, in spite of the laws and against the laws, would it not be better that their power should be used for the public good and in a legitimate manner?

"What shall we say to the Nation? . . . We shall make plain to it the defects of our education, while at the same time suggesting methods by which we can be made of use to the State. We will remind it of those obligations towards our sex which are daily repaid with ingratitude, finally, *we will place clearly before it the subject of our population and of the means by which it may be increased.*

"No one will deny that the true wealth of a State is its population; therefore, if we refuse to increase it we refuse to enrich ourselves.

"Maternity is the one tax which we alone pay, but it does not produce the effect which we should expect from it. It should be paid by all. But the nobility have few children, the clergy can have none, the third estate alone gives citizens generously to the State. . . ."

And the Provençales foresee the necessity for a tax on celibates!

"There is only one means of doing away with celibacy in France: it is to double the taxes of bachelors; to give no employment and no responsible positions to this parasite class which lives at the expense of fathers of families, and usurps the possessions of future generations. Only by these means will Frenchmen lose that character of frivolity of which they have been rightly accused; they will be born again in a numerous and healthy posterity which will have patriotism as its universal guiding force."

The desires of the women of Provence were generous and their willingness is obvious. They were ready to pay for their civil rights with one or with several children. They even went so far as to demand compulsory collaboration in this indisputably useful social work. The Assembly either disclaimed or ignored their memorial. Doubtless it would have done better to have received it. Perhaps, owing to the ladies of Provence, France would possess to-day several million more citizens. V. E.

Obituary.

A large circle of personal friends and all Suffragists have to mourn the loss of a true-hearted woman and a great supporter of Women's Suffrage in the death of Mrs. Russell Cooke, which took place last week at her home, Bellecroft, near Newport, I.W. Mrs. Russell Cooke bore the strain of a long illness with undaunted courage, and never slackened her interest in the great causes with which she had identified herself on account of the physical suffering which she was called upon to bear. The recent formation of the National Union Society at Newport was largely due to her inspiration, and as soon as the Society was formed, she invited it to meet at Bellecroft, although she must at that time have known that her days were numbered. Her buoyant courage and her power of faithful friendship will long be cherished as a precious memory by her many friends.

IPSWICH BY-ELECTION.

Polling resulted in a victory for the Unionists.

Mr. F. C. J. Ganzoni (U)	**6,406**
Mr. Masterman (L)	**5,874**
Mr. Scurr (Soc.)	**395**

Ipswich, as polling day drew near, became more and more like a town in a state of siege. Shops and houses were barricaded in the main streets and riots seemed to be expected as a matter of course. The place was recognised as a Parliamentary cock-pit—Sir Edward Carson gave the final word for the Unionists, and Mr. Lloyd George was brought down on the last night to ensure victory for the Government.

The behaviour of Ipswich crowds was such as one would have thought possible only in the barbaric ages: the way in which women were treated in the streets caused a revulsion of feeling, even towards the militants, on the part of decent-minded working-men. Allusions to Mrs. Pankhurst from the Liberal platform, presumably intended to bring the question into disrepute, were received in ambiguous silence.

During the week at every available street-corner the shouts of rival speakers, representing many organisations, rose in a continuous, inharmonious babel. It was a trial of lungs rather than of wit. The side issues which marked the election increased the confusion of tongues; Free Trade, Tariff Reform, "Loyal Ulster," the Police Union, Puritanism (represented by Mr. Kensit), Socialism of the rebellious kind, Anti-Insurance, Anti-suffrage, Women's Freedom League, Constitutional Suffrage of various types, Militancy, claimed a simultaneous hearing, often within a few yards of each other.

Barrack Corner became by common consent the Suffrage arena; the National Union commanded a large audience every night at seven o'clock, and when our speakers left at eight for another pitch the Freedom League took on the audience. Vehicles of men's organisations came night after night, but their speakers failed to collect an audience. The most noticeable fact about the out-door speaking was that the women speakers swept away the men's audiences at almost every point: in fact, if party organisations wanted a hearing they found it advisable to put up a woman speaker. Women are in politics, and they have obviously come to stay.

The day before polling Mrs. Cooper and other members of the N.U. went down to the Ranelagh Works: on each side of the entrance and opposite it were rival men speakers, within a few feet of each other, shouting lustily at a perplexed audience below, their arms moving like the sails of a windmill. We drove into their midst accompanied by good-humoured shouts of "It isn't fair," and joined in the fray. From that moment the meeting was a prolonged roar of laughter, except on the part of the two men speakers who were nearest the gate.

The reception of our speakers was extraordinarily good. Miss Muriel Matters and Mrs. Cooper made a favourable impression the first day, and contributed greatly to the success of subsequent meetings. Miss Helen Fraser, who came on Wednesday, is almost a genius in handling a rowdy audience, and was listened to even by the children, in a silence that is most unusual at a street corner.

Owing to the fine weather indoor meetings were at a discount—even Mr. Lloyd George's meeting was not full.

The Suffrage Shop attracted a good deal of attention; members of the local society taking turns in looking after it.

We feel that the unpopularity of the Suffrage Movement which, owing to the burning of the Bath Hotel at Felixstowe, was such a marked feature of the initial stages of the election, is now almost a thing of the past. And this is not only due to the success of our speakers already mentioned, but also to the enthusiasm and tact shown by our workers, Miss Cohen, Miss Power, and Miss Scott.

The National Union can congratulate itself that an enemy in the Cabinet, no less formidable because he calls himself a Suffragist, is still in the unprecedented position of being without a seat in Parliament.

L. F. Waring.

N.E. DERBYSHIRE BY-ELECTION.

The N.-E. Derbyshire by-election has come and gone, and with but ten days in which to convert the electorate the Labour candidate has polled over 3,600 votes. It is a splendid result. When the fight opened there was literally no organisation in existence and practically no Labour propaganda had been done in any part of the constituency. With few exceptions, therefore, the votes polled by Mr. Martin were "hewn out of the solid," mainly by the strenuous labour of the speakers and workers of the National Union. In his speech after the declaration of the poll the Labour candidate, amid the acclamations of his audience, drew special attention to the splendid results of the women's work. Many drawn to our meetings by curiosity left filled with enthusiasm for the Women's Cause, while on all sides we were besieged with a demand to return and our organise adherents into Suffrage Societies. Our efforts were admirably supported by members of the Chesterfield Society, notably Mrs. Jameson, Miss Smith, and Mrs. Whitly, who came over night after night to help at our meetings; also Mrs. Frank Hall and Mrs. Morgan who, with others from Staveley, were energetic in the indispensable but very fatiguing business of working up our meetings and distributing handbills. Nor can we be too grateful to Mrs. Morgan for throwing open her house and its bathroom to our workers, and for the many creature comforts she provided for us ere we set out for our dinner hour meetings, and when we returned at night.

EAST FIFE BY-ELECTION.

The following sums, sent direct to Miss Alice Crompton, are acknowledged with very hearty gratitude:—

	£	s.	d.
Glasgow Society	10	0	0
Miss Slack	5	0	0
Miss Lees	5	0	0
Mrs. Finlay	3	0	0
Dr. Elsie Inglis	2	10	0
Stranraer Society	2	2	0
Miss Gillet	2	0	0
Mrs. Renold	2	0	0
Miss Lumsden, LL.D.	1	7	6
Mrs Heitland	1	1	0
Mrs. Rackham	1	0	0
Miss Lawson	1	0	0
Miss Jeffrey	1	0	0
Miss Dalby	1	0	0
Miss A. J Cohen	1	0	0
Dunbar Society	1	0	0
Dornoch Society		10	0
Mrs. and Miss Blane		5	0

C.C. SELLERS.

The London Corps of The Common Cause sellers is coming steadily on, and arrangements are being made for holding monthly meetings for them at the London Office. The day and hour will appear for two weeks beforehand in this column.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

Suffragists felt they had much in common with the aims and objects of proportional representationists, as these were set forth at the Annual Meeting of the Proportional Representation Society, on May 20th. The advocates of both reforms are working for the attainment of the ideal set before them by Mr. Asquith in February, 1906, when he stated that in his opinion "it was infinitely to the advantage of the House of Commons, if it was to be a real reflection and mirror of the national mind, that there should be no strain of opinion honestly entertained by any substantial body of the King's subjects which should not find there representation and speech."

The principal difference between the aims of Proportional Representationists and those of Suffragists seems to be that while the work of the former is devoted to securing the adequate representation of minorities, the latter are concerned with obtaining, for the first time, some share of representation for the majority of the adult population.

The subject of most of the speeches on May 20th was Proportional Representation in its relation to Federalism and Devolution generally. Suffragists could not but be impressed by the moving appeal for the safeguarding of the interests of minorities made by such Anti-suffragists as Lord Dunraven and Mr. Mackinder, who put the case for the representation of women with all the fervour that the most ardent supporter could desire, while it was difficult to believe that the eloquent pleading of Lord Parmoor that any subordinate Parliaments which might be set up should be based on a real, instead of a sham, system of representation, was not meant for a joke, coming as it did from the lips of one who, a fortnight before, had voted against Women's Suffrage in the House of Lords.

To the logically minded it seemed odd that the Suffragettes, having listened in silence to the speeches of three strong Anti-suffragists, should begin their evening's work by interrupting Mr. Anderson, who, as his custom is, made an eloquent speech on behalf of the claims of democracy, of the kind we have so often heard and enjoyed on Suffrage platforms.

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
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MISS C. E. MARSHALL (Parliamentary).
MISS EMILY M. LEAF (Press).
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Treasurer's Notes.

We have lately received some very welcome donations, and one very beautiful gift, consisting of an old silver and jewelled filagree necklace from one who writes she is unable to give money. I take this, the earliest opportunity, of thanking all whose spontaneous help is ever a source of encouragement to those who are working at Headquarters.

In appealing for further contributions to our funds, it is well to realise the evolutionary forces that are at work, and adding daily to the strength of our movement; the progress towards better social conditions—slow as it is—means continuous improvement in the position of women, and we have got so far, that to-day the Women's Suffrage question is part and parcel of every important political question. The ramifications of our work reach out in all directions. Our Union has become one of the most active political and educational organisations in the country, holding something like 300 meetings every month; our literature goes all over the world, and is in constantly increasing demand, and it is no exaggeration to say that every week hundreds of new subscribers and thousands of Friends are enrolled.

Our recently published annual report shows all this progress; but it shows also that the financial responsibility for this vast amount of work grows heavier and heavier every year, and those who in any way help us to bear this increasing financial burden are indeed giving us new life and vigour, and fitting us with the strength we need for further efforts. For no matter how much we are doing, there is always something more which *could* be done, and which would be so well worth doing if only the money would run to it—if only, when all the current work is planned out and set going, there were just a little more to spare for some unforeseen emergency or for some extra little piece of useful and practical propaganda. Here, for instance, is a case in point: the fertile brains of Suffragists are continuously at work devising new ways of bringing our question before the public, and one of our members recently made the happy suggestion that we should advertise the non-militant Suffrage movement by means of simply worded advertisements in motor-omnibuses. By her own generosity we were enabled to make an initial experiment, and now we are anxious to carry out this useful scheme on a more extensive scale. The general public who travel in motor-'buses are just the persons whom we desire to reach. They are not more ignorant or more prejudiced than those whom we meet elsewhere, but they are, for the most part, busy working people, who have had little or no opportunity of having the case for Women's Suffrage put fairly before them, and who know next to nothing about our great organisation, or about the many weighty reasons for the urgency of our demand.

Can anyone doubt but that it would be an immense advantage to be able to advertise our work in this way, and incidentally, also, THE COMMON CAUSE, and so help to increase the circulation of our paper, the best instrument of propaganda that we have? There can be no doubt that everything that focusses attention on the work of the National Union and spreads knowledge of the growth and extent of the non-militant Suffrage movement, must tend to increase the support that is given us. But, alas! advertising, as everybody knows, is an expensive luxury. To carry out this scheme thoroughly we should like to advertise in every omnibus line running in the Metropolitan and Suburban area, and put advertisements in hundreds of 'buses; but all we can spare just now from the campaign upon which we are already engaged will not suffice for more than a small fraction of that number. Here, then, is a great opportunity of doing immediate good.

We are constantly being told that the non-militant Suffrage movement is not sufficiently known to the general public. We are told that our quiet educational campaign, our vast propaganda work carried on week by week by our 489 societies up and down the country, our orderly meetings, our share in elections, the teaching, the writings of our devoted leaders, helpful as they all are to our cause and productive as we know them to be of continuous progress, yet go unrecorded by the Press, and are therefore ignored by thousands of men and women whose only source of information on all public matters is the ordinary daily paper. Who, then, will send us a donation towards our scheme for motor-'bus advertisements? £10 10s. will cover the cost of an advertisement in thirty 'buses for six months. The present seems to be a most opportune moment for making special efforts: the General Election comes nearer and nearer, and the seed we sow now will assuredly bear fruit.

THE ALEXANDRA COLLEGE GUILD AND HOUSING CONDITIONS IN DUBLIN.

It was announced at the Annual Conference of the Alexandra College Guild, Dublin, last week, that the Earl of Pembroke has decided to give, as a memorial to his father, the late Earl of Pembroke, a site of almost two acres of ground for cottages, and the trustees of the Pembroke Irish Charities have agreed to build on this ground sixteen model cottages, and to hand them over, when completed, to the Alexandra Guild Tenements Company to be their property.

To the Alexandra College Guild has been entrusted the honour and the responsibility of carrying out the design of the memorial, and of making the life of the tenants in these cottages something much better than the best that is possible in the tenement houses they already manage.

FACTS ABOUT THE GUILD.

Alexandra College Guild was founded in May, 1897, by Miss White, Lady Principal, at a meeting presided over by Mrs. Henry Fawcett, who still remains a Vice-President. Its primary objects are to establish a bond of union amongst present students of the College, to keep past students in touch with it by giving them opportunities of hearing lectures on subjects of general interest, and to interest them in, and inform them about, women's work in the world. It now numbers over 900 members.

TENEMENTS COMPANY.

The first notable development of the Guild was the formation on July 4th, 1898, of the Alexandra Guild Tenements Company, Ltd. It is interesting to record that at the time it was started this was the only public company in the United Kingdom managed entirely by women, and that, except on two occasions, a dividend of 2½ *per cent. per annum* has been paid upon its capital of £1,335. The company purchased and made habitable and healthy seven tenement houses in Summerhill and Grenville street. These houses are looked after by members of the Guild, and in this way many women have become interested and well informed in regard to the housing question.

It thus appears that the housing conditions in Dublin, which are now beginning to arouse general public attention, were being dealt with in a practical way by the women of the Alexandra Guild over fifteen years ago.

TO THE WOMEN OF LONDON!

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PUBLIC RECEPTION

To-day, Friday, May 29th, 3.30 to 6.15 p.m.
WESTMINSTER PALACE HOTEL, VICTORIA STREET, S.W.

Chair: Miss ROSAMOND SMITH (Exec. Com., L.S.W.S.).
Speakers: Mrs. STANBURY (Exec. Com., N.U.W.S.S.); The EARL OF LYTTON; Mr. T. GUGENHEIM; Mr. P. WHITWELL WILSON ("P.W.W." of *The Daily News*).
Next Week (June 5th), Miss EDITH DIMOCK (Exec. Com., L.S.W.S.); Councillor MARGARET ASHTON, M.A. (Exec. Com., N.U.W.S.S.); Dr. SALEEBY.
DISCUSSION. TEA 6d.

FÉDÉRATION ABOLITIONISTE INTERNATIONALE
(For the Abolition of Official Regulation of Prostitution.)
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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, PORTSMOUTH,
June 15th to 18th, 1914.
Subject:
"A CONSTRUCTIVE POLICY: LIBERTY WITH RESPONSIBILITY" in regard to—
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Branches: Bridge of Earn, Scone, Alyth, and Coupar Angus.
St. Andrews.—Mrs. Scott, St. Regulus, St. Andrews.
Branches: Crail, Anstruther, and Newburgh.
Selkirk.—Mrs. Connochie, Park House, Selkirk.
Shetland.—Miss Jamieson, Twagios, Lerwick, Shetland.
Stirlingshire.—Mrs. Alec Morrison, Roselea, Bridge of Allan.
Stranraer.—Miss Paterson, Creebridge, Newton Stewart, Wigtownshire.
Tain.—Miss D. Stewart, Balanloch, Tain, Ross-shire.
Branches: Ardgay, Bonar Bridge, Portmahomack.
Tayside.—Miss Maxwell, Kinbank, Wormit-on-Tay, Fife.
Wick.—Miss Stephen, 6, Coach Road, Wick.

Wales.

M. **Aberdare and District.**—Mrs. Pritchard, Corinthia Villa, Elm Grove, Aberdare.
M. **Abergavenny.** — Miss Gardner, "Hawkhurst," Western Road, Abergavenny.
M. **Aberystwyth.**—Miss Marles Thomas Somerville, South Terrace, Aberystwyth.
H. **Bangor.**—*Hon. Org. Sec.:* Mrs. C. Price White, Rockleigh, Bangor. *Hon. Sec.:* Miss Nora Lewis, Belmont, Bangor.
Branch: Llanfairfechan.
M. **Brecon and District.**—Miss Elizabeth Jane Edwards, 2, Camden Villas, Brecon.

M. **Cardiff and District.**—Miss Howell, 132, Queen Street, Cardiff.
Branch: **Penarth.**
M. **Carmarthen.**—Miss B. A. Holme, Kaf-ora, Myrddin Crescent, Carmarthen.
H. **Carnarvon.**—Mrs. & P. Evans, Roman Villa, Carnarvon; and Miss Ryle Davies, Cartrefle, Segontium Road South, Carnarvon.
Branch: **Pen-y-groes.**
Chepstow.—Miss Edith Smith, 28a, High Street, Chepstow.
H. **Colwyn Bay.**—Miss M Spencer, **Farlands, Penrhyn Bay, near Llandudno.**
H. **Criccieth.**—Mrs. Walter Jones, **Emu, Criccieth.**
H. **Dolgelly.**—Mrs. John Jones, **Wenallt, Springfield Street, Dolgelly, and Miss Gertrude Lewis, Dr Williams' School, Dolgelly.**
M. **Ebbw Vale.**—Miss A. R. Johns, Caegwyn, Ebbw Vale.
M. **Farmers District.**—Miss Bessie Williams, Bedwellty, Farmers, Llanwrda, R.S.O., Carmarthen.
M. **Kidwelly and Ferryside.**—Miss E. M. Meredith, "Brynhyfryd," Kidwelly, S. Wales.
M. **Lampeter.**—Miss Minnie C. Davies, Velindre House, Lampeter.
H. **Llandudno.**—Miss Wright, Preswylfa, Abbey Road, Llandudno.
M. **Llanelly.**—Miss Smith, 9, Mina Street, Llanelly.
M. **Llangollen.**—Miss B. Stewart, Oaklands, Llangollen.
M. **Merionethshire.**—Mrs Francis Lewis, Balkan Hill, Aberdovey.
M. **Merthyr and District.**—Mrs. M J. Williams, 1, Lewis Terrace, Heolgerrig, Merthyr Tydfil.
M. **Neath, Briton Ferry, and District.**—Mrs. Tonner, 22, Rugby Avenue, Neath.
M. **Newport, Mon.**—Miss Acomb, Ty-gwyn, Clytha Park, Newport, Mon.
M. **Penarth,** Branch of Cardiff.
H. **Pen-y-groes,** Branch of Carnarvon.
H. **Penmaenmawr.**—Miss A. M. Harker, **Glan Afon, Penmaenmawr, and Mrs. Philip Williams, Cynlas, Penmaenmawr.**
M. **Pontypool and District.**—Miss Gwladys M. Bailey, The Grove, Pontnewynydd, near Pontypool, and Miss Muriel Mosely, Ty-Gwyn, Pontnewynydd.
H. **Pwllheli.**—Miss Moody, Penlam Street, Pwllheli.
H. **Rhyl and District.**—Mrs. Amy Rhodes, Kempton House, Rhyl.
L. **Swansea.**—Miss N. Griffith Jones, 9, Eaton Terrace, Swansea.
L. **Upper Rhondda.**—Miss Ridley, The Schools, Blaen-Rhondda.
H. **Wrexham.**—Miss Price, 76, Beechley Road, Wrexham.

India.

S. **Mussoorie.**—Miss Weatherley, "The Deodars," Mussoorie, India.

France.

S. **Paris.**—Mrs. M. Pearde Beaufort, 135, Boulevarde Montparnasse, Paris.

News from the Societies and Federations.

Kentish Federation.

DEAL AND WALMER.—Miss Griffith-Jones addressed open-air meetings in South Street on Friday, April 3rd, and on Monday, April 6th. Both meetings were well attended. Copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, "Friends'" cards were signed, and many questions were asked at the close of the meetings, which seemed to testify to the interest of the audiences.—Miss Cooke addressed a meeting of members and "Friends" in the Masonic Hall on Thursday, May 7th, at 3.30 p.m., when Mrs. Royse was in the chair. Miss Cooke's able speech on the political situation was listened to with deep interest by all present. Tea was served at the close of the meeting, a collection was taken, copies of THE COMMON CAUSE and literature were sold, and new "Friends" were gained for the cause. Miss Cooke also spoke in the open in South Street at 7.30 p.m. the same evening.

SANDWICH.—On Saturday, April 4th, Miss Griffith-Jones spoke in the Cattle Market at 7.30 p.m. to a crowded and sympathetic audience, and many "Friends'" cards were signed.—On Friday, May 8th, Miss Cooke spoke in the Cattle Market for over one hour. She quickly gained the sympathy of her audience by her moving account of the sweated workers of the country. Twenty copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

ASHFORD.—A Drawing-room Meeting was held at Miss Lee's house on Friday afternoon, April 24th, when Miss Griffith-Jones aroused much interest amongst a number of people who had not come in touch with the movement before. The same evening she addressed a big crowd in the High Street. In spite of the rain, she was able to hold her audience for more than an hour. Copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, and twenty-three "Friends'" cards were signed.
On Tuesday afternoon, May 5th, Miss Murray addressed the Adult School, Willesboro', for thirty minutes. Her audience was interested and sympathetic, and asked to hear more of the subject at a future meeting. Miss Murray also spoke at the gates of the S.E. Railway works in the luncheon hour on Wednesday, May 6th. Mr. Banks, who is a keen supporter of the movement, introduced Miss Murray to the men, and said a few very apt words.

CHISLEHURST.—A Drawing-room Meeting was held at Redholm, Chislehurst, by kind permission of Mrs. George, on Monday afternoon, May 11th. Miss Murray was in the chair, and Miss Cooke's beautiful address was listened to with deep interest. Mrs. George invited her guests to tea at the close of the meeting, and much interesting discussion took place.

ORPINGTON.—On April 30th, Miss Griffith-Jones lectured on "Why Women Want the Vote" for the Orpington Suffrage Society, in the Council School-room.

SIDCUP.—Miss Griffith-Jones lectured at the Literary and Scientific Institute on "Some Women Authors and Reformers of the Past Seventy Years."

FAVERSHAM.—A small but successful meeting was held at the small Adult Schools on Wednesday, April 1st. Three new members joined, and several badges were sold. It was proposed to hold meetings every month, if possible.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—A well-attended mass meeting was held on May 7th at the Great Hall, Guise Mitford, Esq., in the chair. The speakers were Lady Margaret Sackville and Baillie Weaver, Esq., LL.B. Suffrage literature and copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold at the door.
On May 13th, a social tea was given to the "Friends" of Women Suffrage at the office. Over eighty "Friends" were present, and a successful meeting was held.

North-Eastern Federation.

NEWCASTLE.—May 6th-10th.—Exhibition of Women's Crafts and Industries. The efforts of all the Societies in the North-Eastern Federation for the past month have been concentrated on the above. The organisation of the Exhibition was in the capable hands of Miss I. S. A. Beaver, and a Committee drawn from the various Societies in the area. The openers for the first two days were Lady Howick and Miss Cécile Barclay—on both occasions there was a large and representative platform. The exhibits were very varied, and in many cases of great beauty. There were three large sections: (1) Loan collection, got together by Miss Lily Clay. This included the samplers of the Brontë sisters, and many other interesting things. (2) Professional work, the exhibitors of which paid a fee for the privilege of showing, and also a percentage on sales. (3) Exhibits given for sale. A good sum of money was raised, and certainly a great deal of interest was displayed by the general public. Good press notices were given.

MORPETH.—Reports no meetings, but the gain of six new "Friends" of Women's Suffrage, one new member, and the sale of two dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE. This Society also reports the protest raised by those of its members who have been asked to work for a coming Unionist Bazaar. The letter of Mrs. George Renwick, voicing the protest, has been given great prominence in the local press.

SOUTH-EAST WANSBECK.—April 23th.—Drawing-room meeting. Hostess, Mrs. Eddleston, Whitley Bay. Speaker, Miss Geraldine Cooke. April 24th.—Jumble sale at Monseaton House. Proceeds, £2 6s. 8d.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Reports work sent in for the Exhibition.

HEXHAM.—April 20th.—A good meeting was held at the Congregational School Rooms, Hexham. Speaker, Miss Hare. Chairman, the Rev. Ellis Learson. Music was supplied by Miss Isa Ridley and Miss J. Dodd. A good collection was taken. April 24th.—Drawing-room meeting at Hillcroft, Stocksfield. Hostess, Mrs. P. Graham. Speaker, Miss Geraldine Cooke. Chairman, Mrs. Pumphrey. This proved a most interesting meeting with an appreciative audience. A very good collection was taken.

TYNEMOUTH.—April 24th.—St. Oswin's Hall, Tynemouth. The last of this season's members' monthly meetings. Chair, Mrs. Charles. Hostess, Miss H. W. Balleny.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—April 22nd.—A public meeting was held in the Girls' Council Schools. Speaker, Miss Geraldine Cooke. Chair, Miss I. S. A. Beaver. Six copies of THE COMMON CAUSE sold. Collection, 4s.

SUNDERLAND.—Reports work during the past month being entirely in connection with the Exhibition. Amongst other things, an amateur theatrical party from Sunderland gave performances of "Press Cuttings" twice during the Exhibition, while the party of children who did country dances so attractively were also brought from Sunderland.

London Society.

WEST LONDON.—The summer series of receptions at the Westminster Palace Hotel opened successfully on May 15th; the Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves took the chair, and the speakers were Miss Clementina Black, Sir Laurence Gomme, and Mr Malcolm Mitchell. On May 22nd, Miss H. D. Cockle took the chair; Mrs. Harley spoke on the Active Service League, Mrs. Alys Russell and Sir William Chance were the other speakers.

BALHAM.—A very interesting open-air meeting was held at the corner of Ormeley Road on May 15th, which was addressed by Miss Cockle and Miss Fyffe. Five "Friends" were enrolled, and several copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

BETHNAL GREEN.—A public meeting was held at Thornton Hall on May 8th. In the absence of the Rev. F. E. Birch (Vicar of Shoreditch) the chair was taken by the Vicar of St. James-the-Less, Bethnal Green, the Rev. C. D. Read. The other speakers were Mrs. Paul Campbell and Miss Fielden. A Suffrage play, acted by Miss Abrahams and Miss Owen, was greatly enjoyed. Twenty-five "Friends" were enrolled.

BRIXTON.—On May 12th Miss Goddard addressed a meeting of superior working-girls at 73, Brixton Hill, on "How the Vote would Assist the Working-Woman." The young women were very much interested, and asked Miss Goddard to come again in a fortnight's time, when, it is hoped, many or all will become "Friends" and members.

DEPTFORD—Open-air meetings will be held every Friday evening. Mrs. Rogers and Miss Ellen Walshe opened the campaign at the corner of Pepys Road on May 22nd.

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E. DULWICH.—An open-air meeting was held on May 8th, at the corner of Church Street and Camberwell Grove, when the speakers were Miss Fyffe and Miss Green. Another meeting took place on May 15th, at the corner of Lordship Lane and Chesterfield Grove, when Miss Gloyn, Mrs. Paul Campbell, and Miss Green addressed a large but rather unruly crowd.

FULHAM.—On May 20th a successful meeting and entertainment was held in the L.C.C. Schools, Lillie Road, at which Miss Helen Ward was the speaker, and Mrs. Temple took the chair. A duologue, entitled "Broken-down Motors," and some incidental music met with much appreciation. Several copies of The Common Cause were sold. It was proposed, and carried *nem. con.* by a large majority, that copies of the following resolution, namely: "That this meeting demands a Government measure for Women's Suffrage, and calls upon (1) the Prime Minister, (2) Mr. Hayes Fisher, to do all in his power to ensure legislation to deal with this question in the near future," be sent to the above-named gentlemen.

GREENWICH.—Open-air meetings are being held every Monday evening. Miss W. Elkin and Miss M. Green were the speakers at Stockwell Street on May 18th. The women's meetings at the Central Hall, South Street, and the Baptist Chapel, Lewisham Road, were addressed by Miss M. Goddard, on May 4th and 19th, when many new "Friends" were enrolled.

HIGHGATE AND N. ST. PANCRAS.—May 4th.—The seventh annual meeting was held at the Spears Memorial Hall, Mrs. Garnett in the chair. The report stated that the branch now consisted of 127 members, that the receipts for the year had been £66 8s. 2d., and the expenses £24 7s. 1d. After the election of Treasurer and Committee, Miss Hibbert-Ware, F.L.A., gave an interesting lantern lecture on "Pioneers of Women's Education." At the close of the meeting a presentation of books was made to the Senior Co.-Secretary.

May 7th.—In conjunction with East St. Pancras, a well-attended ward meeting for "Friends" of Women's Suffrage was held by the kind permission of the Rev. T. H. Russell, in the hall of St. Martin's Church, Gospel Oak. Mrs. Ronald Garrett's sympathetic address and the able speech by the Chairman, Mrs. Holyoake Marsh, aroused much interest, whilst the music and recitations arranged by Mrs. Hadrill and other friends were also warmly appreciated. The audience numbered about 200, and sixty additional "Friends'" cards were signed. A resolution was passed asking for a Government measure enfranchising women, and was duly forwarded to the member for N. St. Pancras, the Conservative candidate, and the local party agents.

May 14th and 21st.—The two concluding speakers' classes were held at 3, Holy Terrace, the subjects being, "Is it desirable to the Community that Women should work for Money?" and "The National Union By-Election Policy." Those who have attended the course feel deeply indebted to Miss Clementina Black for having acted as leader, generously giving the class the benefit of her wide experience and excellent judgment.

HOLBORN AND S. ST. PANCRAS.—A very successful meeting was held on May 12th in the Art Workers' Guild Hall, about 200 being present. Mrs. H. B. Irving took the chair, and the speakers were Mrs. Swanwick and Mr. Cholmeley. The resolution was carried unanimously. Seven new members joined, and thirty "Friends" were enrolled, while forty copies of The Common Cause, together with some other literature, were sold.

KENNINGTON.—An open-air meeting was held at the corner of Clavlands Road and Hanover Gardens on May 8th. Miss Jameson and Miss Dorothy Brown were the speakers. Six "Friends" were enrolled, and thirteen copies of The Common Cause were sold.

On May 15th, another open-air meeting was held at the corner of Hanover Gardens and Clapham Road, and was addressed by Miss Stoehr, Miss Walshe, and Mr. Clifford Ewen. Fifteen "Friends" were enrolled, and nine copies of The Common Cause sold.

Miss Ruth Young addressed a meeting of the Young People's Class at Moffat Institute on May 17th, and was invited to come again in the autumn. On May 18th a very interesting address was given to Nurse Bird's women's meeting at Moffat Institute, on "Elizabeth Fry." Literature was distributed, and the women, though a little hostile on hearing that a Suffragist was to speak, became most interested, and applauded heartily at the close.

MARYLEBONE.—Open-air meetings were held on May 13th and 20th, at the corner of Church Street and Carlisle Street, and the corner of High Street and New Cavendish Street. The speakers were Mr. Joseph Pingree, Miss Rinder, Mr and Mrs. Watson, and Miss Hamilton.

N. LAMBETH.—On May 19th an afternoon meeting was held, at the invitation of Miss Briant, at Alford House, 10, Lambeth Walk, when Mrs. Richardson spoke on "Women in Politics." Miss Oetzmann presided, and the resolution was passed unanimously. Four "Friends" were enrolled, the others being, for the most part, already "Friends." Two new members joined, while an old member doubled her subscription. Twelve copies of The Common Cause and other literature were sold.

On May 22nd an open-air meeting was held at the corner of Tenison Street, when Miss Elkin and Mrs. Savory were the speakers. The meeting was brought suddenly to a close owing to a thunderstorm, but already 18 "Friends" had been enrolled and ten copies of The Common Cause sold.

EAST ST. PANCRAS.—On May 20th an open-air meeting was held at the corner of Rochester Road and Kentish Town Road. One member joined, eight "Friends" were enrolled, and seven copies of The Common Cause sold.

On May 21st a very well-attended meeting for members and "Friends" was held at 22, Bartholomew Road. Hostesses: The Misses Jones. Chair, Miss Rinder. Speaker, Mrs. Savory. A play entitled, "The Ideal Woman," by Miss Millicent Wadham, was also performed, Miss Wadham taking the principal part. A most enjoyable evening was spent.

STREATHAM.—The first of a series of open-air meetings was held at the corner of Becmead Avenue, Streatham High Road, on May 7th. The chair was taken by Mr. Harford Worlock, and the speakers were Miss Fielden and Miss Dora Hoblyn. In spite of a wet evening there was a good attendance. Two new "Friends" were enrolled, and five copies of The Common Cause were sold.

On May 14th an open-air meeting was held at the corner of Stanthorpe Road and Streatham High Road, when the speakers were Mrs. David Watson, Miss Green, Miss Hoblyn, and Mr. Rolleston Stables. There was a large and interested audience, and one new member and five new "Friends" were enrolled. Ten copies of The Common Cause were sold.

WEST NEWINGTON.—A most successful open-air meeting was held on May 5th at the corner of Penton Place and Kennington Park Road, when Miss Ellen Walshe, Miss Green, and Mr. Antony Alsop were the speakers. Several very intelligent questions were asked, and nineteen "Friends" were enrolled. Eight copies of The Common Cause were sold.

On May 6th a drawing-room meeting was held at 1a, New Street, the hostess being Mrs. Quarmby. Mrs. Hunter gave a most interesting and instructive address on "Women in Politics," and Mrs. Ford Smith made a delightful chairman. About twenty-five persons were present, and seven new members joined, the others being already "Friends." Thirteen copies of The Common Cause were sold, while one of the audience volunteered to sell The Common Cause for one hour a week in the street. The resolution was carried with one dissentient, who was an Adult Suffragist.

An open-air meeting was held on May 12th at the corner of Penton Place, the speakers being Miss W. Elkin and Miss Ellen Walshe. A very large crowd assembled, and remained to the close. Twenty-five new "Friends" were enrolled, and eighteen copies of The Common Cause sold.

WEST SOUTHWARK.—On May 19th, at St. George's Circus, a very large open-air meeting was held, addressed by Mrs. Watson and Mrs. Richardson, hundreds of men being present. Thirty-eight "Friends" were made, and all available copies of The Common Cause were sold.

On May 20th Miss Goddard addressed a meeting of the Blackfriars Road Branch of the B.W.T.A., at Surrey Chapel, on "Florence Nightingale." Mrs. Daymond presided, and 14 "Friends" were made, all the others, with the exception of two, having already been enrolled. Permission was given to send another speaker on "Women's Suffrage and Temperance Reform."

Forthcoming Meetings.

Correspondents are urgently requested to write distinctly; and to send in NOT LATER THAN THE MONDAY before the announcement is to be inserted. Notices must be addressed to the Sub-Editor.

London.

MAY 29.

Balham—Corner of Ormeley Road—Open-air Meeting 8.15

Clapham—Corner of Long Street, near "The Plough" and Clapham High Street—Speakers, Mrs. Rogers, Miss Fyffe, Miss Stoehr, Mr. Watson 8.0

Deptford — Corner of Brockley Road and Lewisham High Road — Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss H. D. Cockle, Mr. A. Church 7.45

MAY 30.

Finchley—Outside Stanmore Church—Open-air Meeting—Active Service Branch 3.30

MAY 31.

Poplar—East India Dock Gates—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Campbell 11.30

JUNE 2.

South Lambeth—Corner of S. Lambeth Road and Binfield Road—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Fawcett, Mr. H. Gugenheim 8.0

Wood Green — Drawing-room Meeting of Women's Labour League on "The Work of the N.U."—Speaker, Mrs. Wood 3.0

JUNE 3.

Clapham—Corner of Aristotle Road and Clapham High Street—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Agnes Dawson, Mrs. Campbell 8.0

Marylebone—Corner of Church Street and Carlisle Street—Open-air Meeting—Chair, Mr. Joseph Pingree 8.0

South St. Pancras—Corner of Howland Street and Tottenham Court Road—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Rinder, Miss Meikle 8.0

JUNE 4.

Battersea, Brixton, Clapham, Kennington, and North Lambeth — Public Meeting — Clapham Public Hall, Clapham Road, near Clapham Road Station—Speakers, Lady Betty Balfour and Mrs. Rackham, P.L.G.—Chair, Miss Helen Ward—Suffrage play, "Mrs. Chicky," by Actresses' Franchise League, and organ recital by Lawrence Briant—Tickets, 6d. and 1s 8.0

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Blackheath—The Institute—Speaker, Mrs. Basset—Chair, Miss Drew 3.0
Highgate—3, Holly Terrace—"At Home"—Hostesses, Mrs. Ronald Garrett and Mrs. E. Harrington—Mrs. Rackham on "The By-Election Policy and the Lightning Campaign"—Chair, Miss Eve 3.0
North Islington—Corner of Pemberton Gardens and Holloway Road—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Mr. F. W. Flear, and others—Chair, Miss McGrigor 8.0

JUNE 5.

Camberwell—Corner of Grove Lane and Church Street—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Gloyn, Miss W. Elkin 8.0
Deptford—Corner of Pepys Road and New Cross Gate—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss D. Brown, Miss M. Hamilton 7.45

The Provinces.

MAY 29.

Darlington—Thornbech Collegiate School—"At Home"—Hostesses, The Misses Reid and Taylor—Speaker, Miss Alice Low 3.0
Leeds—Open-air Meeting—Opposite St. Stephen's Schools, Accomodation Road—Speaker, Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A. 7.30

MAY 30.

Weymouth—Address by Mrs. Harley—Chair, Miss Crookenden 8.0

MAY 31.

Weymouth—Miss Cooke on "The Religious Aspect of the Women's Movement"—Chair, Mrs. Harley

JUNE 1.

Scarborough—June 1st-15th—Lightning Campaign
Weymouth—Beach Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Harley, Miss Cooke—Chair, Mrs. Whalley 11.30
Afternoon—Speakers, Mrs. Rackham, Dr. Sloan Chesser—Chair, Mrs. Whalley 3.0
Evening—Mrs. Rackham on "Woman's Work in Local Government"—Chair, Miss Crookenden, M.A.

JUNE 2.

Portsmouth—The Suffrage Rooms, 2, Kent Road—Miss W. A. Elkin on "Unmarried Women and Labour 3.0—8.0
Weymouth—Beach Meeting—Speaker, Dr. Sloan Chesser—Chair, Mrs. Harley 11.30
North Square, Chickerwell—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Miss Cooke—Chair, Miss Levi 8.0
Evening—Dr. Sloan Chesser on "Woman Marriage and Motherhood"—Chair, Miss Tanner
Upwey—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Whalley—Chair, Miss Batchelor 8.0

JUNE 3.

Mitcham—Beddington Corner—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Miss N. O'Shea 7.30
Oxford—Members' Meeting for the Active Service League—Miss Evelyn Atkinson on "The All-British Lightning Campaign"
Pangbourne—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Miss Muriel Matters 8.0
Preston—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Whalley, Miss Young, Miss Clough—Chair, Miss Levi 8.0
Westham—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Miss Cooke—Chair, Mrs. Hicks, B.A. 8.0
Weymouth—Beach Meeting—Speaker, Miss Cooke—Chair, Miss Batchelor 11.30
Evening—Speaker, Miss Pease—Chair, Miss Alice Clerk

JUNE 4.

Birmingham—Handsworth Co-operative Guild—Speaker, Miss Kirby
Croydon—31, Addiscombe Grove—White Elephant Garden Sale—Hostess, Miss Waterall 3.30
Leamington—35, Warwick Street—Meeting of the Franchise Club—Miss Jackson on "The Disabilities of Women under Law and Custom" 3.0
Weymouth—Beach Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Whalley—Chair, Miss Cooke 11.30
The Park—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Hicks, B.A.—Chair, Mrs. Whalley 8.0
Evening—Entertainment by Members of Wells Society—Recitations, songs, &c.

JUNE 5.

Weymouth—Conference of N.U. Secretaries—Beach Meeting—Speaker, Miss Cooke—Chair, Miss Clough 11.30
Mr. J. Cameron Grant on "Man, Woman, and the Machine" 8.0
Wyke Regis—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Miss Cooke—Chair, Mrs. Whalley 8.0

Scotland.

MAY 29.

Dumfries—Greyfriar's Hall—Speaker, Mrs. Snowden—Chair, Provost Turner 8.0

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home"—Mr. W. Stewart (I.L.P., Glasgow) on "The Fulfilment of Democracy" 4.30

MAY 30.

Tranent—I.L.P. Meeting—Speaker, Miss Pressley Smith 6.30

MAY 31.

Portobello—Meeting of the National Union of Railwaymen—Speaker, Miss Pressley Smith 4.0

JUNE 2.

West Calder—I.L.P. Meeting—Speaker, Miss Pressley Smith 6.30

JUNE 5.

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home"—Speaker, Ex-Bailie T. P. Gordon 4.30

Items of Interest.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH FRY.

The important part which women have played in social reform was fitly commemorated on May 25th by the unveiling of a statue to Elizabeth Fry, in the Old Bailey, which stands practically on the site of the old Newgate Prison, where her great life work was begun.

It is difficult now to realise the appalling state of things which existed in our prisons at the time when Elizabeth Fry first began to visit the women and children in Newgate Gaol. Through her efforts a more humane system of treating prisoners was introduced, not only in our own country, but in France, Belgium, Holland, and Prussia, whose gaols she visited, presenting reports afterwards to the various governments. She also introduced important improvements in our hospitals, and in the treatment of the insane, thus winning a foremost place in the list of the world's benefactors.

HIGH DISTINCTIONS WON BY FRENCH WOMEN.

Mlle. Jeanne Duportal has just taken the degree of Doctor of Letters at the Sorbonne, being the first woman to gain this distinction. At the French Universities this degree is extremely difficult to attain, and the number of men LL.D. is very small.

It will be remembered that a distinction of a different, but no less remarkable, kind was gained quite a short time ago by another French woman—the plucky wife of a signalman—who, a few minutes after her husband had been shot, took his place at the levers, and worked the signals for three hours, ensuring the safety of the public and enabling the traffic to proceed as usual.

AN EXPERIMENT IN THE SOUTH-WEST.

The Exeter branch of the N.U.W.S.S. and the Devon and Exeter branch of the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association jointly held a meeting for men only in the Banfield Hall on Tuesday, May 5th. The speakers were Canon Masterman and Mr. W. H. Mirrlees. About 200 men were present, and a resolution calling on the Parliamentary candidates for this constituency to put Women's Suffrage in their election addresses at the next General Election, was carried without a single dissentient. Over £3 10s. was collected, and a good number of copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold. This is, we believe, the first meeting of its kind ever held in the S.W. Federation, and we think it ought not to be the last. Suffrage meetings in this part of the world are usually very well attended, but three-fourths of the audiences are usually non-voters; this is the largest number of men who have ever attended a Suffrage meeting here. The success of the meeting is mainly owing to the work of a Committee of about fifteen men, drawn from all classes of society and representing all shades of politics, who threw themselves, heart and soul, into the work, and women Suffragists have to thank more especially Mr. Mather King, who acted as Secretary to the Committee, and was quite unflagging in his zeal.

The meeting is to be followed up by deputations to the sitting member and to the candidate from men only, to urge the same thing as the resolution, and by a petition from voters only.

A FEMINIST LIBRARY.

The International Women's Franchise Club has now a feminist library which is probably more complete than any other in England. It contains over a thousand books in different languages, including standard and modern works on a great variety of subjects. The subscription to the Franchise Club (£1 1s. a year) includes the use of this library, members being allowed to take out two books at a time. Those who do not belong to the Club may become associates and use the library, exchanging the books by post, on payment of 5s. 6d. a year.

A TRIBUTE FROM THE U.S.A.

Last month's issue of *The Woman's Bulletin*, of Los Angeles, writes as follows about the N.U.W.S.S. demonstration in February:—

"The great Men's Demonstration meeting at Albert Hall, in London, on February the 14th, broke all records. It was not merely that the hall was full and the speeches lofty, but there was a feeling of great spiritual force, both among speakers and audience, which made the meeting inspiring beyond the inspiration of speakers and speaking, and the impression left was one of absolute unity. When Mrs. Fawcett went up the hall, all present in the vast and crowded auditorium arose and burst into a roar of applause. Through all the speeches ran a thread of hope for Equal Suffrage, in spite of all controversy."

HANDICAPPED.

"There is nothing in the wide world, from going upstairs, holding a lighted lamp in one hand and a baby in the other, and the front of her dress between her teeth, to being debarred from the polling-booth because she belongs to the angel sex, that isn't harder for a woman . . . . just because she is a woman."—Dorothy Dix, in *Nash's Magazine*.

CAMPING OUT.

Members of the Active Service League and others interested in camping out will be glad to learn that light, portable, and absolutely weatherproof camping outfits of all kinds can be obtained from "The Lightweight Tent Supply Co.," 260, High Holborn. For further particulars see page 167.

Coming Events.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.—Tuesday, June 2nd, at 3 p.m., New Constitutional Hall, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge, Miss Beatrice Kent, "State Registration of Nurses,"; Miss K. Raleigh, "Is the Parliamentary Vote of Use?"; and Mrs. McKeown.

SUFFRAGE SUMMER SCHOOL, University Hall, St. Andrews, Scotland.—11th August to 8th September, 35s. a week. Board, lodging, lectures, and practical work. Under the auspices of the Scottish Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies.—For details apply to Miss Alice Crompton, M.A., 2, St. Andrew-sq., Edinburgh.

Membership Cards. N.U.W.S.S.

3/6 per 100.

Apply—Miss Mathieson, Budleigh Salterton

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Ten words, 9d. per insertion; every additional ten words, 6d. per insertion. All advertisements should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Limited, 2, Robert-st., Adelphi, W.C.

SUFFRAGE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

FOR SALE.—Benefit London Society W.S., a few Engravings and Etchings. List sent.—Miss Coxhead, 10, Riverview-gardens, Barnes, S.W.

MISS NELLIE HORNE, Lecturer on Voice Production, Conductor of Speakers' Classes, Summer Suffrage Schools (Malvern 1912, St. Andrews 1913), Suffrage Societies' Classes (Manchester, Birkenhead, &c.). Elocution in all its branches. Classes or private tuition.—Prince's Chambers, John Dalton-st., Manchester.

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Dealing with all phases of the Woman's Movement,
3d. and **6d.**
For Drawing-rooms, Platforms or Stage purposes.
Descriptive List (2d.) post free on application.
ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE,
2, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI.

THE BETTERMENT BOOK ROOM, 40b, Rosslyn-hill, Hampstead, has a special poster-room, in which are displayed the Suffrage Posters of the Suffrage Atelier. Several new designs. These posters also on sale at Room 28, 2, Robert-st., Adelphi, W.C., or by post from the Suffrage Atelier, 6, Stanlake-villas, Shepherd's Bush.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

POSITIONS VACANT.

ORGANISER required early in June for two months' work. Must be experienced and a good speaker. —Apply Hon. Secretary, Women's Suffrage Society, 132, Queen-st., Cardiff.

EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL.

BRIDLINGTON.—High School for Girls. Modern Education. Extensive Grounds. Large Staff of University Women. Boarding-house on sea-front for a limited number of boarders, under the personal supervision of the head mistress and some of the Staff. For illustrated prospectus apply, Head Mistress.

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MRS. AYRES PURDIE, A.L.A.A., recovers overpaid Income Tax, buys or sells Stocks and Shares, effects all kinds of Insurances and Annuities, Mortgages, Loans, or Reversions, or any business of a legal or financial nature.—Hampden House, 3, Kingsway. 'Phone: Central 6049.

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I approve of the objects and methods of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and desire to be enrolled as a member of the affiliated Society in my district, and to receive their organ *"The Common Cause."

I herewith enclose cheque / postal order for £ s. d., the amount of my annual subscription. Plus 6s. 6d., one year's subscription to "The Common Cause."*

Name _____
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Address _____
(in full.)

To the Secretary, Society for Women's Suffrage,

Or the Secretary, National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

*** Please cross out if not required.**

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